

ELIZABETH TOWN

DRAWER 11

ANCESTRAL HOMES

76.2008.025.05000

Kentucky

Ancestral Homes

Elizabethtown

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

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EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

An investiture of the Bath took place at Windsor Castle on Saturday last.

Last year the revenue from "Conscience money" amounted to £16,455.

The representatives of the States on the banks of the Rhine, assembled in convention, have considerably reduced the river dues.

The Rev. Dr. Henry Philpott has been appointed to the Bishopric of Worcester, vacant by the death of Dr. Henry Paps.

The Queen has appointed William Young, Esq., to be Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Province of Nova Scotia.

A public well-pump in the Gothic style has been erected on Tottenham green, from the design of Mr. P. P. Marshall.

The *Globe* announces that, according to present arrangements, Parliament will meet on Tuesday, the 5th of February.

The Crystal Palace Poultry Show, which closed last Saturday afternoon, was in all respects the most successful of any held at the Palace.

Mr. Norman Robert Pogson has been appointed Astronomer at the Madras Presidency.

A medal and gratuity of £5 have been presented to Private J. Colbourn, of the 5th Regiment, for good conduct and long service.

Lord Bloomfield, British Ambassador to Vienna, and Lord Napier, Ambassador to St. Petersburg, are about to be raised to the rank of Privy Counsellors.

The Hon. E. M. Erskine is appointed Secretary of Embassy at Constantinople, in succession to Mr. Savile Lumley, who is appointed Secretary of Embassy at St. Petersburg.

Baron de Belcastel, First Secretary of the French Legation at Berlin, has been the victim of a robbery to the extent of 6000*fr.*, and all the crosses and decorations which he possessed.

Last Saturday the *Amalia*, a splendid screw steam-frigate built for the Greek Government, was successfully launched at the premises of Mr. Henry S. Pichey, Northfleet Dockyard. The *Amalia* is intended to carry thirty-six guns, and is of 19-9 tons burden.

The *Morning Star* states, "on the best authority," that the whole of the claims on Garibaldi on account of the British Legion have been met by the Sanlunian Government.

The National Life-boat Institution has sent one of its best single-banked life-boats, accompanied with a transporting carriage, to Portlaoine, on the north coast of Ireland.

At the Grand Opera in Paris the fees, which used to decrease to nullo after the fourth night's performance, are now fixed permanently at the sum of 500 francs.

A silver bugle has been purchased by subscription for presentation to the Central Rifle Volunteers (40th Middlesex), as a testimonial from the inhabitants of the Holborn district.

The distribution of prizes to the students of Queen's College, Birmingham, took place on Wednesday, the 13th inst., the Earl of Lichfield, Principal, presiding.



EARLY HOME OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, ELIZABETH TOWN, KENTUCKY. FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY S. S. LEECH, CHICAGO.

The father of Abraham Lincoln was the owner of a small farm while yet a child. Travelling from Kentucky to Indiana, he could find no employment, he was obliged to return to Kentucky. He finally settled in Hardin County, Kentucky, where, in 1806, he was married to Nancy Hanks. The couple had three children, two girls and two sons. One of the boys died in infancy; the daughter died later in life. Abraham Lincoln was born February 12, 1809. It would be difficult to conceive of more unfavorable circumstances than those under which he was reared into manhood. His parents were poor and uneducated. They were under the saddest law which slavery always entails upon poverty; and their limitation was in harmony with their broken fortunes. We give place on Engraving to the early home of the President Elect of the United States.

SCIENTIFIC NEWS.

GUANO.—The eminent agricultural chemist, Boussingault, has just laid before the French Academy of Sciences a portion of a memoir on the position and qualities of guano in the isles and coasts of the Pacific Ocean. In conclusion he states that the present great commercial advantages derived from the diffusion of fossil fertilising matters is due to the observation of the English geologist Buckland, and to the analyses of the French chemist Berthier. Guano is now procured from the isles of the Pacific Ocean, the Caribbean Sea, and the Gulf of Mexico, and from the coasts of Africa and Australia.

ROYAL SOCIETY.—A new part of the *Philosophical Transactions* has been issued lately. It includes profound mathematical papers by Professor Bonkin, of Oxford, and by Messrs. A. Cayley and W. Spottiswoode; three papers on metallic alloys, considered in respect to their electric conducting power and specific gravity, by Dr. A. Matthiessen; a paper on the theory of sound, by the Rev. S. Earnshaw; and a paper on the resin of the fern *Rubiginosa*, &c., by Drs. Warren DeLaune and H. Müller. Of some of the other papers we shall give a separate notice.

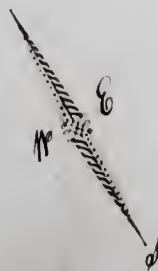
THE IRONSTONE DISTRICTS OF CLEVELAND form the subject of a remarkable geological treatise just published by Mr. James Dewick. It is accompanied by fine coloured diagrams of sections and a large map. The vast importance of the Cleveland ironfield, which appears destined to exert a very great influence on the iron trade of the kingdom, has impelled Mr. Dewick to his valuable labour, which will doubtless be fully appreciated by those interested in the subject. Some observations on ironstone-mining are appended to the treatise.

OZONE.—Dr. T. Andrews, and Mr. P. Tait, of Belfast, have published in the new part of the *Philosophical Transactions* of the Royal Society an account of their continued researches on ozone (the substance discovered by Schönbein, formed by the action of the electric spark on oxygen gas), especially as to its volumetric relations, to which is appended an account of the effects of the action of the electric discharge on hydrogen, nitrogen, cyanogen, and other gases. There [?] are still continuing their inquiries into the nature of ozone, which it is hoped will tend to throw more light on this mysterious substance.

THE GEOLOGY OF BOLIVIA, &c.—A paper on this subject by Mr. D. Forbes was read lately at a meeting of the Geological Society. The great Bolivian plateau, with an average elevation of fourteen or fifteen thousand feet above the level of the sea, consists of great gravel plains composed of sand, siliceous formations, calcareous debris, volcanic tuff, and coquina, including an accumulation of clays, gravel, shingle, and boulders, immense at some places, being at La Paz more than 1000 feet thick. Fresh-water ponds are found at a height of 14,000 feet. Silurian rocks (perhaps 15,000 feet thick) are well developed over an area of from 80,000 to 100,000 miles of mountain country, including the highest mountains of South America, and giving rise to the great river Amazon, &c. At the same meeting some remarks were made by Professor Huxley and Mr. J. Salt on some Bolivian [?] brought over by Mr. Forbes.

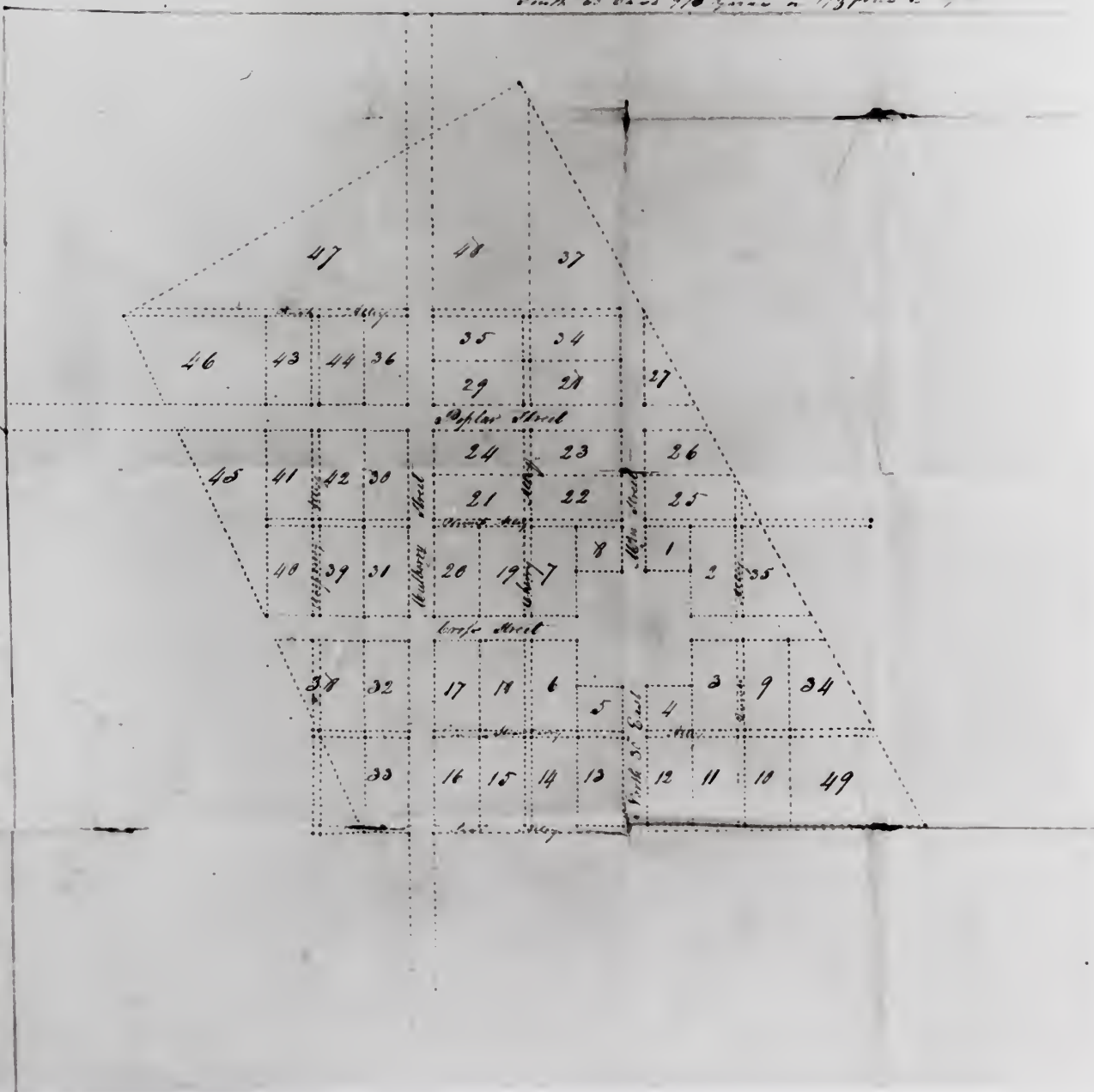
Map of *Wigwag Hill*
 Level down to 10 yards
 to the creek

W. English
 July 15th 1835



North 65° East 470 yards or 173 paces 2

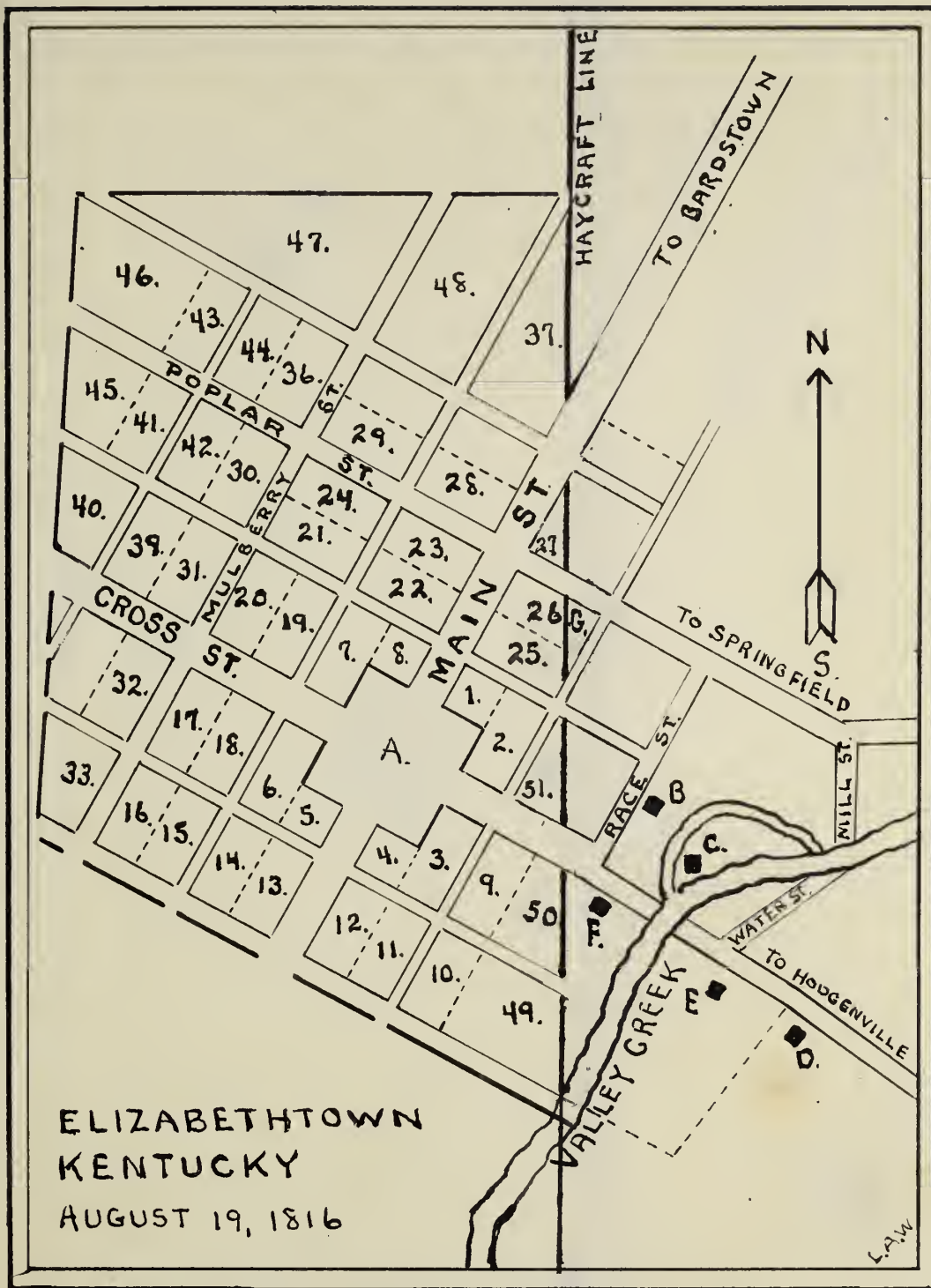
North 30° East 410 yards or 144 acres & Wood 24 poles





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2

LEF CREEK #1

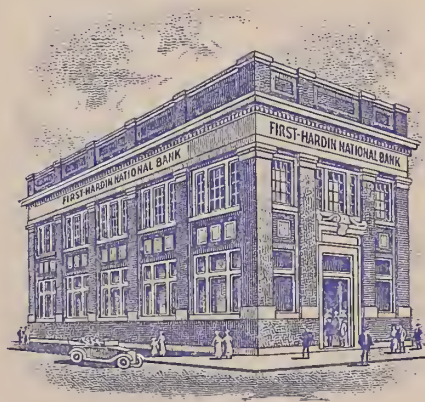
Facts About Elizabethtown

AND

A FEW THINGS ABOUT
HARDIN COUNTY.



One of Our Handsome New Buildings



THE FIRST-HARDIN NATIONAL BANK

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Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana

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The Lincolns
in
Elizabethtown, Kentucky

By

R. GERALD McMURTRY

(Native of Elizabethtown)

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The Lincolns in Elizabethtown, Kentucky

R. GERALD McMURTRY

ELIZABETHTOWN—1793

Elizabethtown is closely associated with the Lincoln family. It is the county seat of Hardin County, and is located in Severn's Valley. The settlement was named for an early pioneer, John Severn, who was the first to discover the valley¹. Elizabethtown is situated approximately fifty miles south of Louisville on the Dixie Highway U. S. 31W. In 1793 Colonel Andrew Hynes² had the settlement surveyed and laid off into lots and streets, but the town was not regularly established until the July term of Court in 1797³.

The early settlement consisted originally of three forts situated on sites suitable for resisting Indian attacks. These forts formed a triangle, each point a mile apart⁴.

The forts were built of logs and probably were stockaded. They also served as homes, and they were occupied by the Helm, Haycraft, and Hynes families. These forts were frequently attacked by the Indians, and the early history of Elizabethtown has some vivid stories of these encounters⁵. The town was named Elizabethtown for the wife of Andrew Hynes, who had foreseen the possibilities of a permanent settlement in this place⁶.

The early settlement in a few years took on the aspect of a village, and tradesmen, professional men, and others came to reside there. Social life was developed to a high degree and schools were established, provided in most cases with excellent teachers. Even at this early date the town could occasionally boast of theatricals, and a dancing master lived within its limits as early as 1800⁷.

The village was not an unattractive⁸ settlement inhabited by poor and miserable people, but was a village composed of good families from Penn-

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1. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 11.
 2. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 24.
 3. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 27.
 4. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 12.
 5. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., pages 12-13.
 6. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 24.
 7. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 74.
 8. Beveridge, Abraham Lincoln, page 22.

sylvania, Virginia, and numerous other states and countries—families who, feeling the pioneer spirit, had come to a new settlement to make their homes, which was at that time the far west. Such was the town when Thomas Lincoln arrived there possibly for the first time in the year 1796⁹.

THOMAS LINCOLN IN ELIZABETHTOWN

The Lincoln family was living in Jefferson County, an adjoining county of Hardin, when the early settlement of Elizabethtown was started. A tragedy¹⁰ was to occur in the Lincoln household before Thomas Lincoln became interested in the little settlement to the south of Jefferson County.

Captain Abraham Lincoln, grandfather of the President, migrated¹¹ from Virginia to Kentucky with his family in 1782, and in 1786 when Thomas Lincoln, father of the President, was ten years old, his father was massacred by a Wabash Indian who was with a raiding party of Indians engaged in an attack against the white settlements near Louisville.

The widow and her five children moved to Washington County¹² after the death of the father, and the first record of Thomas Lincoln, the youngest son, in Elizabethtown is July 13, 1796, when he received \$9.56 from Samuel Haycraft,¹³ probably for services while employed by the latter.

On August 27, 1797, Thomas Lincoln is listed on the Hardin County tax list as twenty-one years old or over,¹⁴ which indicates that he was still a resident of Hardin County, and as he received pay from Samuel Haycraft for work done on a mill and mill race, located just over the limits of Elizabethtown on Severn's Valley Creek, one would infer that he was probably a temporary resident of Elizabethtown the latter part of the year 1797.¹⁵

The mill and mill race is shown on an early map of Elizabethtown dated August 19, 1816. This race was located on an unimproved plot of ground between Cross Street (Dixie Avenue) on the south, and Poplar Street on the north. Race Street, the street nearest the mill race, was located to the west, and Mill and Water Streets were located to the east. The boundary of the Elizabethtown limits to the east was the Haycraft Line, which was in close proximity to the center of the town. The property to the east of the line was the property of Samuel Haycraft.

During Thomas Lincoln's residence in Elizabethtown he was employed to construct a saw mill for Denton Geoghegan; after he had completed

9. Lincoln Lore No. 44.

10. Lincoln Lore No. 171.

11. Beveridge, Abraham Lincoln, page 9.

12. Lincoln Lore No. 44.

13. Lincoln Lore No. 44.

14. Lincoln Lore No. 44.

15. Lincoln Lore No. 44.

the work there was a disagreement between Lincoln and Geoghegan in regard to wages, and a suit was taken to court. In a magistrate's court on March 25, 1807, Lincoln¹⁶ received judgment for the amount due and costs. Geoghegan appealed the case but the magistrate's decision was confirmed.

The tradition is current that Thomas Lincoln was an expert carpenter and cabinet maker, and that many houses in the town were partly constructed by him.¹⁷ There is a possibility that some of these houses may be standing today. Many pieces of furniture are also treasured by Elizabethtown residents as being the work of Thomas Lincoln.

There are also records where Lincoln was employed as a guard¹⁸ of prisoners in Hardin County, and he served on juries¹⁹ on numerous occasions.

Documentary evidence through court records and early manuscripts shows that Thomas Lincoln resided permanently in Elizabethtown from 1803 to 1808.²⁰ Many itemized accounts during this period establish the fact that Thomas Lincoln had excellent credit²¹ with the early merchants, as many of his accounts amount to as high as one hundred dollars, and in some cases more. These accounts also show where payments were made and the accounts squared.

These account books readily prove that the father of the President was reliable and dependable in financial obligations, and that he was also a respectable pioneer citizen of the community.

On June 12, 1806, Thomas Lincoln journeyed to Washington County and married²² Nancy Hanks. With his bride he immediately returned to Elizabethtown to reside, and in February of the following year the couple's first child, Sarah, was born.

In the fall of the year 1808 the Lincoln family moved²³ to the South Fork farm which was destined to be the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln, however, did not sever his connections with Elizabethtown, which was the nearest town of any consequence to his farm. Since the town was the county seat, it was necessary for him to come there occasionally in order to transact his business affairs and to pay his taxes. Then, too, he was frequently engaged in work for the county which necessitated visiting Elizabethtown.

Little Abraham, who was born on the South Fork farm, February 12, 1809, very probably came to the county seat with his father on county

16. Warren, Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood, page 161.

17. Warren, Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood, page 159.

18. Warren, Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood, page 181.

19. Warren, Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood, page 182.

20. Lincoln Lore No. 44.

21. Lincoln Lore No. 44.

22. Lincoln Lore No. 44.

23. Lincoln Lore No. 44.

court days, and up to the time of the migration from Kentucky, Elizabethtown was the largest settlement he had ever seen.

A story told by the Hon. John B. Helm,²⁴ one time a resident of Hannibal, Missouri, relates that when Helm was employed as a clerk in an Elizabethtown store he occasionally saw young Abe. Helm states further that when Lincoln was a candidate for the Presidency in 1860, he visited Helm in Hannibal and said to the men who had accompanied him to see his friend:

"Gentlemen, here is the first man I ever saw that wore store clothes all the week, and this is the same man who fed me sugar as I sat upon a keg in the store."

This story is purely traditional and it is thought that Mr. Helm has confused Lincoln with a step-brother, John D. Johnston,²⁵ a son of Sarah Bush Johnston, who, as Samuel Haycraft says, helped to carry bundles for his mother. It must be remembered that Lincoln was only seven years old when he left Kentucky.

Sufficient documentary evidence has been established to show that Abraham Lincoln passed through Elizabethtown²⁶ when the Lincoln family migrated to Indiana in the year 1816.

After the migration of the Lincolns to Indiana in 1816, nothing is heard of them in Elizabethtown until 1818 when Thomas Lincoln, after the death of his wife, Nancy Hanks, returned and married Sarah Bush Johnston.²⁷ The couple returned immediately to Indiana.

An appropriate bronze tablet²⁸ has been erected in the Elizabethtown Court House yard commemorating the fact that Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks were once residents of the town. The stone base for the tablet was secured from the farm on Mill Creek owned by Thomas Lincoln. The inscription is as follows:

Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks Lincoln
The Parents of
Abraham Lincoln

Lived in Elizabethtown from the time of
their marriage, June 12, 1806, until their re-
moval, in the fall of 1808, to the farm near
Hodgenville where Abraham Lincoln was born.
Sarah, their first child, was born here.
A year after the death of Nancy Hanks
Lincoln in Indiana, Thomas Lincoln returned

24. Haycraft's *History of Elizabethtown, Ky.*, page 113.

25. Warren, *Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood*, page 153.

26. Warren, *Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood*, page 290.

27. *Elizabethtown Woman's Club—Elizabethtown* 0.480.

28. *Ibid.*

and on December 2, 1819, married here Mrs. Sally Bush Johnston, a resident of Elizabethtown, who became the beloved Foster mother of Abraham Lincoln.²⁹

THE ELIZABETHTOWN-LINCOLN CABIN

That Thomas Lincoln lived in Elizabethtown is a fact beyond doubt, but as to the location of his home, and the town lots that he paid taxes³⁰ on, they have yet to be discovered. It is most likely that a cabin was built by Thomas Lincoln before his marriage to Nancy Hanks in 1806, and it resembled the cabin located on the South Fork farm. Thomas and Nancy probably moved into this home immediately upon their arrival at Elizabethtown from Washington County.

In 1793 when the town was laid off into streets and alleys by Andrew Hynes on his land, fifty-one lots were surveyed, each containing one-half acre, with the exception of the corner lots on the public square, which contained one-quarter of an acre. Several sales were conducted by the town trustees, and the most desirable properties sold for as much as three pounds ten shillings, and others went lower.

Samuel Haycraft, Jr., in his History of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, written in 1869, says that Thomas Lincoln erected a dwelling in Elizabethtown which was then still standing.³¹ It is very likely that Haycraft has confused the Sarah Bush Johnston cabin, which was standing in 1869, with the cabin of Thomas Lincoln. It is doubtful if the Thomas Lincoln cabin was standing in Elizabethtown in 1869.

There is a tradition that Thomas Lincoln built a cabin³² just over the Haycraft Line outside the city limits, on a lot originally owned by Haycraft, but then most likely owned by Robert Houston. The site is 300 feet north of the Dixie Highway over Severn's Valley Creek, near the L. & N. railroad bridge, which is situated near the depot. An old poplar tree stood near the site until a few years ago.

Under the date of the September Term of Court in the year 1812,³³ Samuel Haycraft writes of a doggerly (groggery) in the present Jones House above the Eagle House (Smith Hotel site) as the only log house of an ancient date (probably referring to construction) standing, except the old cabin that the father of the President lived in. This cabin undoubtedly was not within the city limits of the original town, but across the Haycraft Line, and was probably the Sarah Bush Johnston cabin which has been confused in so many instances with the home of Thomas Lincoln.

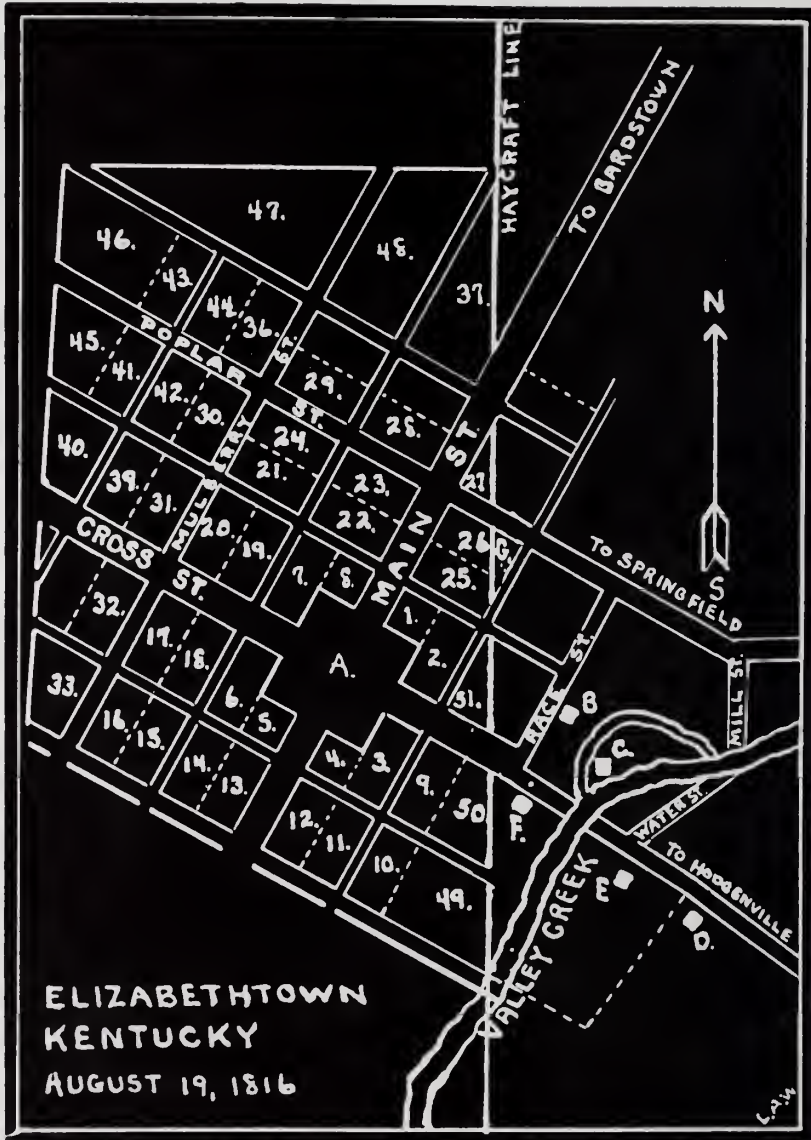
29. Warren, 0.1457. A Day's Tour in Old Kentucky.

30. Lincoln Lore No. 44.

31. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 62.

32. Warren, 0.1457. A Day's Tour in Old Kentucky, page 38.

33. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 62.



MAP OF ELIZABETHTOWN, KENTUCKY

Legend

- A. Elizabethtown Court House Square.
- B. Site where the Sarah Bush Johnston cabin stood, after being moved from lot G.
- C. Site of mill which Thomas Lincoln helped to construct in 1797.
- D. Site of the old Severn's Valley Baptist Church, the oldest organization of that faith extant west of the Allegheny Mountains.
- E. Home of Benjamin Ogden, the first Methodist preacher in the western country.
- F. An early Elizabethtown tannery.
- G. The lot on which the Sarah Bush Johnston cabin was originally erected, containing one and one-quarter acres of ground, the property of Sarah Bush Johnston. Deed Book G, page 213—Deed Book L, page 219.
- Lot 25, The lot on which the Samuel Patton house stood, where Thomas Lincoln and Sarah Bush Johnston were married.
- Lot 1, The lot on which Benjamin Helm constructed in 1802 one of the first brick houses in the western country. (Skaggs Building.)

Note: All of the lots to the west of the Haycraft Line were originally the property of Andrew Hynes, while all of the property east of the Haycraft Line was originally the property of Samuel Haycraft, Sr.

On the north side of (Severn's) Valley Creek is shown the mill race that Thomas Lincoln was employed to construct by Samuel Haycraft, Sr.

ELIZABETHTOWN

Lot Owners 1797

(Year town was regularly established)

1. James Crutcher	18. James Crutcher	35. Samuel Bush
2. Ichabod Radley	19. Benjamin Helm	36. George Helm
3.	20. William Muller	37. Samuel Bush
4. Joseph Chafin	21. Morris Miles	38. Isaac Bush
5. James Crutcher	22. James Crutcher	39. James Crutcher
6. Charles Helm	23. Edward Rawlings	40. James Crutcher
7. Benjamin Helm	24. Morris Miles	41. Benjamin Helm
8. Benjamin Helm	25. Aaron Rawlings	42. Benjamin Helm
9. Asa Coombs	26. Aaron Rawlings	43. Bleakly & Montgomery
10. Andrew Hynes	27. Aaron Rawlings	44. Bleakly & Montgomery
11. George Helm	28. Christopher Bush	45. Benjamin Helm
12.	29. Andrew Hynes	46. Bleakly & Montgomery
13. David Vance	30. James Perciful	47. Bleakly & Montgomery
14. George Helm	31. Christopher Bush	48. James Crutcher
15. Samuel Bush	32. Andrew Hynes	49.
16. Daniel Wade	33. Christopher Bush	50.
17.	34. Garrard Bowling	51.

In the year 1808 Thomas Lincoln listed for taxes two lots³⁴ in Elizabethtown, originally owned by Hynes. The taxes were paid on an assessed valuation of \$40.00. This valuation of the property indicates that a cabin was probably located on one of the lots. Haycraft, in describing the town in 1801, states that buildings were erected by George Berry, Jacob Bruner, Samuel Patton, Mrs. Jane Ewin, Mrs. Boling, Mrs. Llewellyn, Thomas Lincoln (father of the President), James Crutcher, Asa Coombs, Thomas Davis, Henry Ewin, James Love and David Vance. In describing these buildings Haycraft says that hewed log houses were gradually replacing round log houses, and that these buildings had shingled roofs fastened with poplar pegs, plank floors and windows with sash and glass or greased paper instead of glass. From this description it is evident that the cabin homes in Elizabethtown were comfortable and suitable to pioneer needs.

The alley on which the traditional Lincoln cabin stood was not up to the year 1820 within the town limits and was not subject to town tax. The eastern boundary of the town was the Haycraft Line separating Haycraft's land from that of Hynes. The cabin mentioned by early biographers stood on Haycraft's land, while the tax list shows Lincoln's holding to have been on land originally owned by Hynes within the town limits.

A cabin of which a picture has been published by G. A. Carpenter, once a resident of Elizabethtown, and copyrighted by S. W. Hayward in 1908 as the early home of Abraham Lincoln, and thought by some to be the Elizabethtown Lincoln cabin, have confused the Sarah Bush Johnston cabin for that of the cabin of Thomas Lincoln. The Sarah Bush Johnston cabin was located just out of the city limits as it was over the Haycraft Line.

It is probable that Thomas Lincoln constructed more than one cabin in Elizabethtown which has caused so many conflicting statements to be made as to the location of his home. However, it is likely that Lincoln lived in only one cabin in Elizabethtown, and the cabin belonging to Sarah Bush Johnston had no connection with the Lincoln family until the year 1819 when Thomas Lincoln married³⁵ Mrs. Johnston. The picture of the Elizabethtown cabin should never be confused with the Thomas Lincoln cabin, and it is hoped that when the picture is hereafter used it will be correctly called the home of Abraham Lincoln's step-mother.

There is a possibility that the undiscovered Lincoln lots will some day be known. Numerous court records and early manuscripts have as yet failed to reveal their location, but it is hoped that research will continue until they are discovered. The discovery of these lots would be quite an asset to historic Elizabethtown.

SARAH BUSH JOHNSTON

Sarah Bush Johnston was the daughter of Christopher Bush,³⁶ who settled in Elizabethtown at an early period. He was of German descent, and was a very industrious and influential citizen. His family was un-

34. Lincoln Lore No. 44.

35. Elizabethtown Woman's Club. Warren 0.480.

36. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., pp. 16, 17.

usually large. Most of the Bush family eventually left Kentucky, but Sarah Bush remained as she had married Daniel Johnston,³⁷ a jailor of Hardin County. Daniel Johnston died about 1816, leaving her with three children. She continued to reside in Elizabethtown.

As Thomas Lincoln's wife, Nancy Hanks, had died in October, 1818, while living in Indiana, he decided to visit Elizabethtown again, and while there to call upon his former sweetheart. He was a very successful suitor and on December 2, 1819, he was married to the widow of Daniel Johnston by Rev. George L. Rogers,³⁸ who was a minister in the Methodist Episcopal church.

Sarah Bush Johnston in 1818 purchased from Samuel Haycraft a small plot of land containing one and one-quarter acres located just over the Haycraft Line and just outside the city limits. The lot containing one and one-quarter acres is recorded in Deed Book G, page 213. The price paid for the tract was \$25.00.

This lot belonging to Sarah Bush Johnston had a small cabin built on it, in which she lived. This cabin was located in the rear of the lot on Main Street between Poplar Street and Cross Street. This cabin of which there is a picture extant has often been confused with the unknown home of Thomas Lincoln and has often been erroneously attributed to be the home of Abraham Lincoln.

On December 2, 1819, when Thomas Lincoln and Sarah Bush Johnston were married, the wedding was held in a larger house that adjoined the property of Mrs. Johnston. This log house was built by Samuel Patton³⁹ on Main Street and was directly in front of the small cabin. The larger house was better suited for the large crowd which was probably present at this ceremony. The house in the year 1819 belonged to Hon. Benjamin Chapeze, a distinguished lawyer, who most likely was living there at that time. The Chapeze family resided in the Patton house until the 14th of April, 1828, when they sold the property to Thomas J. Walker.⁴⁰

The building in which the wedding was held was demolished in 1922 and a large brick garage building was erected upon the site. On February 12, 1927, the Elizabethtown Woman's Club appropriately marked the site by placing a bronze marker on the new building. The tablet contains the following words:

In a House
Which Stood Upon This Lot
Were Married on December 2, 1819
Thomas Lincoln
The Father
and
Sarah Bush Johnston
The Foster-Mother
of
Abraham Lincoln.
Elizabethtown Woman's Club
Feb. 12, 1927

37. Elizabethtown Woman's Club, 0.480, Warren.

38. Elizabethtown Woman's Club, 0.480, Warren.

39. Elizabethtown Woman's Club, 0.480, Warren.

40. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 138.

Immediately after the wedding Thomas Lincoln and his wife, with her three children, left for the Lincoln home in Indiana where Sarah Bush Johnston was to become the most noble step-mother of all history.

The Sarah Bush Johnston property was not sold on her removal, and she retained possession of it until 1829 when the property was sold by her to a Mr. Wathen (Deed Book L, Page 219) for the sum of \$125.00. Thomas Lincoln's name according to law appeared with that of his wife on the deed, and the selling of this property was to be his last connection with Elizabethtown with which he had been closely associated from the year 1796.

ELIZABETHTOWN—MARRIAGE CONTACTS

It is a singular fact that Abraham Lincoln's marriage to Mary Todd would indirectly connect him with three prominent Elizabethtown characters, two of whom were connected with the town's early history, and possibly one, an acquaintance of his father, and the other to be his friend, a leader in a cause which he had to wage a determined fight to subdue.

Todd-Helm Connection

Ben Hardin Helm, a native of Elizabethtown and a son of the Governor of Kentucky, John L. Helm (1850-52, '67), married Emilie Todd,⁴¹ a half-sister of Mrs. Abraham Lincoln. Emilie Todd was a favorite sister of Mary Todd, and she and her husband connected Lincoln indirectly with his early home in Kentucky.

Lincoln and Helm were not acquainted at the time of Helm's marriage, but in 1857 Ben Hardin Helm had occasion to go to Springfield, Illinois,⁴² on a law case and while there he visited with the Lincolns a week, and he and Lincoln became great friends, although their political ideas were very different.

Lincoln and Helm had much in common as they were both from the same community in Kentucky, having been born about fourteen miles apart, and Lincoln made many inquiries about Elizabethtown and Hardin County.

As a result of this close friendship, at the outbreak of the war, Lincoln, in April, 1861, offered Helm, who was a West Point graduate, the office of paymaster⁴³ with the rank of major in the Union Army. This office was a very coveted one, and Mrs. Lincoln was very anxious to have her sister live with her in the White House, but Helm after considering the matter chose to cast his lot with the Confederacy, and on September 20, 1863, Gen. Ben Hardin Helm, Commander of the Orphan Brigade, gave his life for the South on the Battlefield at Chickamauga.⁴⁴

The remains of Gen. Ben Hardin Helm are today interred in the Helm Cemetery one mile north of Elizabethtown on the Dixie Highway U. S. 31 W.

41. Katherine Helm—Mary, Wife of Lincoln, page 15.

42. Katherine Helm—Mary, Wife of Lincoln, page 15.

43. Katherine Helm—Mary, Wife of Lincoln, page 183.

44. Katherine Helm—Mary, Wife of Lincoln, page 216.

Helm-Edwards Connection

Major Benjamin Helm, a resident of Elizabethtown, married the daughter of Hon. Benjamin Edwards.⁴⁵ His wife, Mary Edwards, was a sister of Governor Ninian Edwards of Illinois.

The son of Governor Edwards, Ninian Wirt Edwards,⁴⁶ while a student of Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky, married Elizabeth Todd, a sister of Mary Todd.

It was in the home of Ninian Wirt Edwards that Abraham Lincoln was married to Mary Todd, and it was in this house that Mary Lincoln died⁴⁷ in 1882.

It is an interesting fact that Major Benjamin Helm erected a brick building⁴⁸ in Elizabethtown in 1802 which is standing today (Skaggs property). This building was one of the first brick structures to be erected in the middle west, and it is an odd circumstance that the building was erected across from the alley and within twenty-five feet of the Samuel Patton house in which Thomas Lincoln married Sarah Bush Johnston in 1819.

Green-Edwards Connection

General Duff Green, an early Elizabethtown merchant and school teacher, married Lucretia Edwards,⁴⁹ a daughter of Hon. Benjamin Edwards and a sister of Governor Ninian Edwards of Illinois.

General Green was a very prominent character who became influential in national politics, as he was a close friend of President Andrew Jackson and a member of his "Kitchen Cabinet",⁵⁰ a group of men who more or less controlled the destinies of the nation. Even during Lincoln's administration he was confronted with the tremendous power and influence of Duff Green, a southern political leader.

General Green resided in the old Patton House in Elizabethtown which he bought in February, 1814, and he lived there until 1817.⁵¹ The old Patton house was the house in which Thomas Lincoln and Sarah Bush Johnston were married December 2, 1819.

LINCOLN-HAYCRAFT LETTERS

Samuel Haycraft (Junior), a resident of Elizabethtown, received five letters from Abraham Lincoln. Four of these letters were written while Lincoln was a presidential candidate, and one was written seven days after his election. Three of the letters are of a political nature, and the remaining two concern Lincoln's parentage and his seven-year residence in Kentucky.

Exhibit One.

Springfield, Illinois, May 28, 1860.

Hon. Samuel Haycraft,
Elizabethtown, Ky.
Dear Sir:

Your recent letter without date is received. Also a copy of your speech on the contemplated Daniel Boone Monument, which I have not yet had time to read. In the main you are right about my history. My father was Thomas Lincoln, and Mrs. Sally Johnston was his second wife. You are mistaken about my mother. Her maiden name was Nancy Hanks. I was born February 12, 1809, near where Hodginsville (Hodgenville) now is, then in Hardin County. I do not think I ever saw

45. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 60.

46. Katherine Helm—Mary, Wife of Lincoln, page 17.

47. Katherine Helm—Mary, Wife of Lincoln, page 299.

48. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 299.

49. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 111.

50. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 111.

51. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 138.

you, though I very well know who you are—so well that I recognized your handwriting, on opening your letter, before I saw the signature. My recollection is that Ben Helm was the first clerk, that you succeeded him, that Jack Thomas and William Farleigh graduated in the same office, and that your handwritings were all very similar. Am I right?

My father has been dead near ten years; but my step-mother (Mrs. Johnston) is still living.

I am really very glad of your letter, and shall be pleased to receive another at any time.⁵²

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Major Ben Helm was appointed clerk pro tempore during the June term of court, 1799. He gave bond for \$3,000 with John Rowan and Felix Grundy as sureties.⁵³

Jack Thomas worked as a deputy clerk of the Hardin County court in 1807-1808. In May, 1810, he was appointed clerk of the Grayson Circuit court and during the same year he received the appointment of clerk of the Grayson County court. His father, Hardin Thomas, resided in a house in Elizabethtown, in which the joiner's work was constructed by Thomas Lincoln.⁵⁴

William Farleigh was sworn in as Deputy Court Clerk of the Hardin County court, January 20, 1817.⁵⁵

Exhibit Two.

(Private)

Springfield, Illinois, June 4, 1860.

Hon. Samuel Haycraft,
Elizabethtown, Ky.

Dear Sir:

Your second letter, dated May 31st, is received. You suggest that a visit to the place of my nativity might be pleasant to me. Indeed it would. But would it be safe? Would not the people lynch me?

The place on Knob Creek, mentioned by Mr. Read, I remember very well; but I was not born there. As my parents have told me, I was born on Nolin, very much nearer Hodgen's Mill than the Knob Creek place is. My earliest recollection, however, is of the Knob Creek place. Like you, I belonged to the Whig party from its origin to its close. I never belonged to the American party organization; nor even to a party called a Union party, though I hope I neither am, nor ever have been, less devoted to the Union than yourself or any other patriotic man.

It may be altogether without interest to let you know that my wife is a daughter of the late Robert S. Todd, of Lexington, Ky., and that a half-sister of hers is the wife of Ben Hardin Helm, born and raised at your town, but residing at Louisville now, as I believe.⁵⁶

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Abraham Lincoln was born on the South Fork of Nolin River. This river has more bends and turns than any river in the United States according to a report issued by the United States Geological Survey in March, 1932. The river winds twenty miles to the air line distance of six miles.

There is a tradition that an early pioneer named Linn disappeared while in the vicinity of the river; probably he was drowned or killed by the Indians, and as the searchers reported "No Linn" the name Nolin was given to the river.

Exhibit Three.

Springfield, Ill., Aug. 16, 1860.

Hon. Samuel Haycraft,
Elizabethtown, Ky.

My Dear Sir:

A correspondent of the New York *Herald*, who was here a week writing to that paper, represents me as saying I have been invited to visit Kentucky, but that I

52. Nicolay & Hay. Complete Works of A. L. Vol. 6, p. 21.

53. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 45.

54. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 55.

55. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 66.

56. Nicolay & Hay, Complete Works of A. L. Vol. 6, page 39.

suspected it was a trap to inveigle me into Kentucky in order to do violence to me.

This is wholly a mistake. I said no such thing. I do not remember, but I did possibly mention my correspondence with you, but very certainly I was not guilty of stating or intimating a suspicion of any intended violence, deception, or other wrong against me by you or any other Kentuckian.

Thinking this *Herald* correspondence must reach you, I think it due to myself to enter my protest against this part of it.

I scarcely think the correspondent was malicious, but rather that he misused what was said.⁵⁷

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Exhibit Four.

Springfield, Illinois, August 23, 1860.

Hon. Samuel Haycraft,
Elizabethtown, Ky.

My Dear Sir:

Yours of the 19th just received. I now fear I may have given you some uneasiness by my last letter. I did not mean to intimate that I had, to any extent, been involved or embarrassed by you; nor yet to draw from you anything to relieve myself from difficulty. My only object was to assure you that I had not, as represented by the *Herald* correspondent, charged you with an attempt to inveigle me into Kentucky to do me violence. I believe no such thing of you or of Kentuckians generally; and I dislike to be represented to them as slandering them in any way.⁵⁸

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Immediately after Lincoln's election Samuel Haycraft, Jr., no doubt wrote to Lincoln asking him to use his influence in securing the position of postmaster of Elizabethtown for D. C. S. Wintersmith.

R. L. Wintersmith, Sr., voted for Lincoln in his first campaign for the presidency, and he was the only man living in Elizabethtown to cast his vote for Lincoln. Immediately after Lincoln's election, he went to Washington and called upon the President, and while there he secured the appointment of his son, D. C. S. Wintersmith, to the office of postmaster of Elizabethtown.⁵⁹

Exhibit Five.

Springfield, Ill., Nov. 13, 1860.

Hon. Samuel Haycraft,
Elizabethtown, Ky.

My Dear Sir:

Yours of the 19th is just received. I can only answer briefly. Rest assured fully that the good people of the South, who will put themselves in the same temper and mood towards me which you do, will find no cause to complain of me.

While I cannot, as yet, make any committal as to offices, I sincerely hope I may find it in my power to oblige the friends of Mr. Wintersmith.⁶⁰

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

SUMMARY OF LINCOLN-ELIZABETHTOWN CONTACTS

The Hardin county court house located in Elizabethtown is one of the chief documentary sources of Lincolniana in Kentucky.⁶¹

In 1797 Thomas Lincoln was employed by Samuel Haycraft, Sr., to work on a mill race just outside the limits of Elizabethtown.⁶²

Thomas Lincoln owned, and paid taxes on, two lots within the city

57. Nicolay & Hay, Complete Works of A. L. Vol. 6, page 51.

58. Nicolay & Hay, Complete Works of A. L. Vol. 6, page 53.

59. Sommer's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., Chapter IX.

60. Nicolay & Hay, Complete Works of A. L., Vol. 6, page 69.

61. Warren, Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood, opposite page 112.

62. Lincoln Lore No. 44.

limits of Elizabethtown.⁶³ He worked as a laborer, carpenter and cabinet maker while living in Elizabethtown.⁶⁴

Immediately after their marriage on June 12, 1806, Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks made their first home in Elizabethtown.⁶⁵

Sarah Lincoln, an older sister of Abraham Lincoln, was born in Elizabethtown, February 10, 1807.⁶⁶

Of the total value of property listed in 1814 in which there are ninety-eight persons listed, only fifteen show a greater property value than that of Thomas Lincoln.⁶⁷

Abraham Lincoln in the year 1816 passed through Elizabethtown on the way to Indiana.⁶⁸

Thomas Lincoln and Christopher Bush signed the Lincoln-Johnston marriage bond in Elizabethtown, December 2, 1819.⁶⁹

Thomas Lincoln married his second wife, Sarah Bush Johnston, in Elizabethtown, December 2, 1819.⁷⁰

Rev. George L. Rogers, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, performed the marriage ceremony for Thomas Lincoln and Sarah Bush Johnston.⁷¹

Peter Cartright, the noted pioneer Methodist preacher, and an opponent of Abraham Lincoln in 1846 for Congress, voted in an Elizabethtown election in 1822.⁷²

Thomas Lincoln and Sarah Bush Johnston sold their real estate in Elizabethtown to a man named Wathen in 1829 for \$125.00.⁷³

The nephew of Mrs. Benjamin Helm⁷⁴ and Mrs. Duff Green,⁷⁵ residents of Elizabethtown, married the sister of Mrs. Abraham Lincoln.⁷⁶

Abraham Lincoln, while a candidate and president-elect in 1860, wrote five letters to Samuel Haycraft, a resident of Elizabethtown.⁷⁷

Major Ben Hardin Helm, a native of Elizabethtown, and a brother-in-law of Mrs. Abraham Lincoln, is buried in the Helm cemetery a mile north of the Elizabethtown court house.⁷⁸

Robert L. Wintersmith, Sr., was the only man in Elizabethtown who voted for Lincoln in 1860.⁷⁹

General Duff Green, who married Lucretia Edwards, an aunt of Ninan Wirt Edwards, who was a brother-in-law of Abraham Lincoln, lived in the same house in Elizabethtown in which Thomas Lincoln was married to Sarah Bush Johnston.⁸⁰

In 1864 Abraham Lincoln received in Elizabethtown thirty votes for the presidency.⁸¹

63. Lincoln Lore No. 44.

64. Warren, Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood, page 159.

65. Lincoln Lore No. 24.

66. Lincoln Lore No. 24.

67. Compilation of Hardin County Court Record.

68. Warren, Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood, page 290.

69. Elizabethtown Woman's Club, Sarah Bush Lincoln, 0.480.

70. Elizabethtown Woman's Club, Sarah Bush Lincoln, 0.480.

71. Elizabethtown Woman's Club, Sarah Bush Lincoln, 0.480.

72. Hardin County Court Record.

73. Hardin County Court Record.

74. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 60.

75. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 111.

76. Katherine Helm—Mary, Wife of Lincoln, page 17.

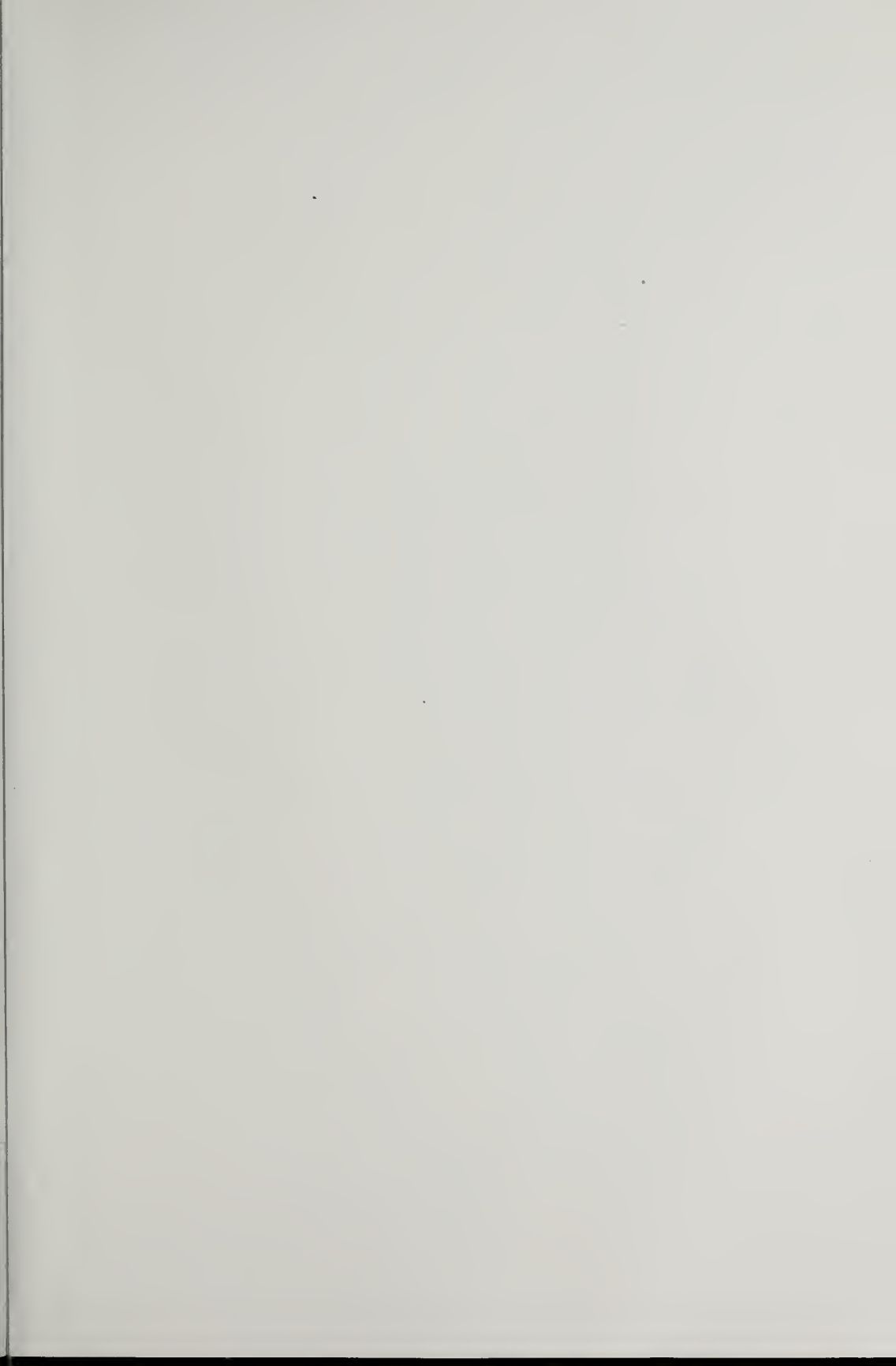
77. Nicolay & Hay, Complete Works of A. L., Vol. 6, pp. 21, 39, 51, 53, 69.

78. Thompson, The History of the Orphan Brigade.

79. Sommer's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., Chapter IX.

80. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 138.

81. Louisville Daily Journal, Nov. 9, 1864.





Thomas Lincoln

Born 1776 - Jan. in Rockingham County, Va.
Migrated in 1782 with parents to Kentucky
witnessed in 1784 his father's massacre by the
Indians near Louisville, Ky.

In July - 13 - 1796 Thomas Lincoln was paid \$9.56
by Samuel Haycraft at Elphinstown, Ky.

1797 - Aug - 27. listed on Hardin County
Tax list as 21 years old as over

1797 - Helped to build mill dam

1803 - Guarded prisoners in Hardin Co.

1804 - Served on two juries

1806 - June 10th signed marriage bond in
Washington - June 12 - married Nancy Hanks

1811 - July 20 - moved to Knob Creek farm

1818 - Oct. 5 - Nancy Hanks Lincoln died

1819 - Dec - 2 - married Sarah Bush Johnston

THOMAS LINCOLN IN ELIZABETHTOWN

by

R. Gerald McMurtry, Librarian
Lincoln National Life Foundation

The Lincoln family was living in Jefferson County, an adjoining county of Hardin, when the early settlement of Elizabethtown was started. A tragedy was to occur in the Lincoln household before Thomas Lincoln became interested in the little settlement to the south of Jefferson County.

Captain Abraham Lincoln, grandfather of the President, migrated from Virginia to Kentucky with his family in 1782, and in 1786 when Thomas Lincoln, father of the President, was ten years old, his father was massacred by a Wabash Indian who was with a raiding party of Indians engaged in an attack against the white settlements near Louisville.

The widow and her five children moved to Washington County after the death of the father, and the first record of Thomas Lincoln, the youngest son, in Elizabethtown is July 13, 1796, when he received \$9.56 from Samuel Haycraft, probably for services while employed by the latter.

On August 27, 1797, Thomas Lincoln is listed on the Hardin County tax list as twenty-one years old or over, which indicates that he was still a resident of Hardin County, and as he received pay from Samuel Haycraft for work done on a mill and mill race, located just over the limits of Elizabethtown on Severn's Valley Creek, one would infer that he was probably a temporary resident of Elizabethtown the latter part of the year 1797.

The Mill and mill race is shown on an early map of Elizabethtown dated August 19, 1816. This race was located on an unimproved plot of ground between Cross Street (Dixie Avenue) on the south, and Poplar Street on the north. Race Street, the street nearest the mill race, was located to the west, and Mill and

Water Streets were located to the east. The boundary of the Elizabethtown limits to the east was the Haycraft line, which was in close proximity to the center of the town. The property to the east of the line was the property of Samuel Haycraft.

During Thomas Lincoln's residence in Elizabethtown he was employed to construct a saw mill for Denton Geoghegan; after he had completed the work there was a disagreement between Lincoln and Geoghegan in regard to wages, and a suit was taken to court. In a magistrate's court on March 25, 1807, Lincoln received judgment for the amount due and costs. Geoghegan appealed the case but the magistrate's decision was confirmed.

The tradition is current that Thomas Lincoln was an expert carpenter and cabinet maker, and that many houses in the town were partly constructed by him. There is a possibility that some of these houses may be standing today. Many pieces of furniture are also treasured by Elizabethtown residents as being the work of Thomas Lincoln.

There are also records where Lincoln was employed as a guard of prisoners in Hardin County, and he served on juries on numerous occasions.

Documentary evidence through court records and early manuscripts shows that Thomas Lincoln resided permanently in Elizabethtown from 1803 to 1808. Many itemized accounts during this period establish the fact that Thomas Lincoln had excellent credit with the early merchants, as many of his accounts amount to as high as one hundred dollars, and in some cases more. These accounts also show where payments were made and the accounts squared.

These account books readily prove that the father of the President was reliable and dependable in financial obligations, and that he was also a respectable pioneer citizen of the community.

On June 12, 1806, the Lincoln family moved to the South Fork farm which was destined to be the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln, however, did not sever his connections with Elizabethtown, which was the nearest town of any consequence to his farm. Since the town was the county seat, it was necessary for him to come here occasionally in order to transact his business affairs and to pay his taxes. Then, too, he was frequently engaged in work for the county which necessitated visiting Elizabethtown.

Little Abraham, who was born on the South Fork farm, February 12, 1809, very probably came to the county seat with his father on county court days, and up to the time of the migration from Kentucky, Elizabethtown was the largest settlement he had ever seen.

A story told by the Hon. John B. Helm, one time a resident of Hannibal, Missouri, relates that when Helm was employed as a clerk in an Elizabethtown store he occasionally saw young Abe. Helm states further that when Lincoln was a candidate for the Presidency in 1860, he visited Helm in Hannibal and said to the men who had accompanied him to see his friend:

"Gentlemen, here is the first man I ever saw that wore store clothes all the week, and this is the same man who fed me sugar as I sat upon a keg in the store."

This story is purely traditional and it is thought that Mr. Helm has confused Lincoln with a step-brother, John D. Johnston, a son of Sarah Bush Johnston, who, as Samuel Hycroft says, helped to carry bundles for his mother. It must be remembered that Lincoln was only seven years old when he left Kentucky.

Sufficient documentary evidence has been established to show that Abraham Lincoln passed through Elizabethtown when the Lincoln family migrated to Indiana in the year 1816.

After the migration of the Lincolns to Indiana in 1816, nothing is heard of them in Elizabethtown until 1818 when Thomas Lincoln, after the death of his wife, Nancy Hanks, returned and married Sarah Bush Johnston.

Elizabethtown, Kentucky
1793

A town closely associated with the Lincoln family is Elizabethtown, the county seat of Hardin County. This town is located in Severn's Valley, ^{and} named for an early pioneer, John Severn, who first discovered the valley. ~~The town is situated approximately fifty miles south of Louisville on the Dixie Highway U.S. #31 N.~~ [The town was laid off in 1793 by Colonel Andrew Hynes, but was not regularly established until the July term of Court in 1797.

The early settlement consisted originally of three forts situated on sites suitable for resisting Indian attacks. These forts formed a triangle, each point a mile apart.

The forts were built of logs and were probably stockaded. They also served as homes, and they were occupied by the Helm, Haycraft, and Hyne families. These forts were frequently attacked by the Indians and the early history of Elizabethtown has some visit stories of these encounters. When one fort was assailed, the report of a gun could be heard by the residents of the other two situated a mile away. Immediately aid would be sent to the besieged fort, and thus did this sensible arrangement and use of military science help the settlement to resist the invaders who were trying to force the white people back from the frontier.

The settlement proved to be ~~very~~ attractive, and many pioneers came to the Severn Valley to make their homes. The town was named Elizabethtown for the wife of Andrew Hynes, who had foreseen the possibilities of a permanent settlement in this place.

The early settlement in a few years took on the aspect of a village and tradesmen, professional men, and others came to reside there. Social life was developed to a high degree and schools were established, provided in most cases with excellent teachers. Even at this early date the town could occasionally boast of theatricals and a dancing master lived within its limits as early as 1800.

The village was not an unattractive settlement inhabited by poor and miserable people, but was a village composed of good families from Pennsylvania, Virginia and numerous other states and countries - families, who, feeling the pioneer spirit had come to a new settlement which was at that time the far West, to make their homes. Such was the town when Thomas Lincoln arrived there in the year 1796, possibly for the first time.

Lincoln-Haycraft Letters

Samuel Haycraft (Junior) a resident of Elizabethtown, received five letters from Abraham Lincoln. Four of these letters were written while Lincoln was a presidential candidate, and one was written seven days after his election. Three of the letters are of a political nature, and the remaining two concern Lincoln's parentage and his seven year residence in Kentucky.

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Jack Thomas worked as a deputy clerk of the Hardin County court in 1807-1808. In May 1810, he was appointed clerk of the Grayson Circuit court and during the same year he received the appointment of clerk of the Grayson County Court. His father, Hardin Thomas, resided in a house in Elizabethtown, in which the joiner's work was constructed by Thomas Lincoln.

(Haycraft's, History of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, p. 55.)

William Farleigh was sworn in as deputy Court Clerk of the Hardin County Court, January 20, 1817.

(Haycraft's, History of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, p. 66)

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Your second letter, dated May 31st, is received. You suggest that a visit to the place of my nativity might be pleasant to me. Indeed it would. But would it be safe? Would not the people lynch me?

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Yours very truly,

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Note: Immediately after Lincoln's election Samuel Haycraft, Jr. no doubt wrote to Lincoln asking him to use his influence in securing the position of postmaster of Elizabethtown for D.C.S. Wintersmith.

R.L. Wintersmith, Sr. voted for Lincoln in his first campaign for the

presidency, and he was the only man living in Elizabethtown to cast his vote for Lincoln. Immediately after Lincoln's election, he went to Washington and called upon the President and while there he secured the appointment of his son, D.C.S. Wintersmith to the office of postmaster of Elizabethtown. (Sommer's, History of Elizabethtown, Ky. Chapter IX, unpublished.)

Exhibit five.

Springfield, Ills., Nov. 13, 1860

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My dear Sir:

Yours of the 19th is just received. I can only answer briefly. Rest assured fully that the good people of the South, who will put themselves in the same temper and mood towards me which you do, will find no cause to complain of me.

While I cannot, as yet, make any committal as to offices, I sincerely hope I may find it in my power to oblige the friends of Mr. Wintersmith.

Yours very truly,

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Notes

1. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 11.
2. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 24.
3. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 27.
4. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 12.
5. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 12-13.
6. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 24.
7. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., P.74.
8. Beveridge, Abraham Lincoln, page 22.
9. Lincoln Lore # 44.
10. Lincoln Lore # 171.
11. Beveridge, Abraham Lincoln, page 9.
12. Lincoln Lore # 44.
13. Lincoln Lore # 44.
14. Lincoln Lore # 44.
15. Lincoln Lore # 44.
16. Warren, Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood, page 161.
17. Warren, Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood, page 159.
18. Warren, Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood, page 181.
19. Warren, Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood, page 182.
20. Lincoln Lore # 44.
21. Lincoln Lore # 44.
22. Lincoln Lore # 44.
23. Lincoln Lore # 44.
24. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 113.
25. Warren, Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood, page 153.
26. Warren, Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood, page 290.

27. Elizabethtown Woman's Club - (Warren) Elizabethtown O. 480.
28. Ibid.
29. Warren, O. 1457. A Day's Tour in Old Kentucky.
30. Lincoln Lore # 44.
31. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 62.
32. Warren, O. 1457. A Day's Tour in "Old Kentucky". page 38.
33. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 62.
34. Lincoln Lore #44.
35. Elizabethtown Woman's Club. Warren O. 480.
36. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., pp. 16, 17.
37. Elizabethtown Woman's Club, O. 480, Warren.
38. Elizabethtown Woman's Club, O. 480, Warren.
39. Elizabethtown Woman's Club, O. 480, Warren.
40. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 138.
41. Katherine Helm - Mary, Wife of Lincoln, page 15.
42. Ibid, page 126.
43. Katherine Helm - Mary, Wife of Lincoln, page 183.
44. Katherine Helm - Mary, Wife of Lincoln, Page 216.
45. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 60.
46. Katherine Helm, Mary, Wife of Lincoln, page 17.
47. Katherine Helm, Mary, Wife of Lincoln, page 299.
48. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 75.
49. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 111.
50. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 111.
51. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 138.
52. Nicolay and Hay. Complete Works of A.L. Vol. 6, p. 21.
53. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 45.

54. Haycraft's, History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 55.
55. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page. 66.
56. Nicolay & Hay, Complete Works of A.L. Vol. 6, page 39.
57. Ibid, page 51.
58. Ibid, page 53.
59. Somner's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., Chapter IX.
60. Nicolay & Hay, Complete Works of A.L., Vol. 6, page 69.
61. Warren, Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood, Opposite page 112.
62. Lincoln Lore # 44.
63. Lincoln Lore # 44.
64. Warren, Lincoln's Parentage & Childhood, page 159.
65. Lincoln Lore # 24.
66. Lincoln Lore # 24.
67. Compilation of Hardin County Court Record.
68. Warren, Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood, page 290.
69. Elizabethtown Woman's Club, Sarah Bush Lincoln, 0.480.
70. Elizabethtown Woman's Club, Sarah Bush Lincoln, 0.480.
71. Ibid.
72. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 60.
73. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., page 111.
74. Katherine Helm, Mary, Wife of Lincoln, page 17.
75. Nicolay & Hay. Complete Works of Abraham Lincoln, Vol 6, pp.21,39,51, 53,69.
76. Somner's History of Elizabethtown, Ky., Chapter IX(unpublished.)
77. Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, page 138.
- 78.

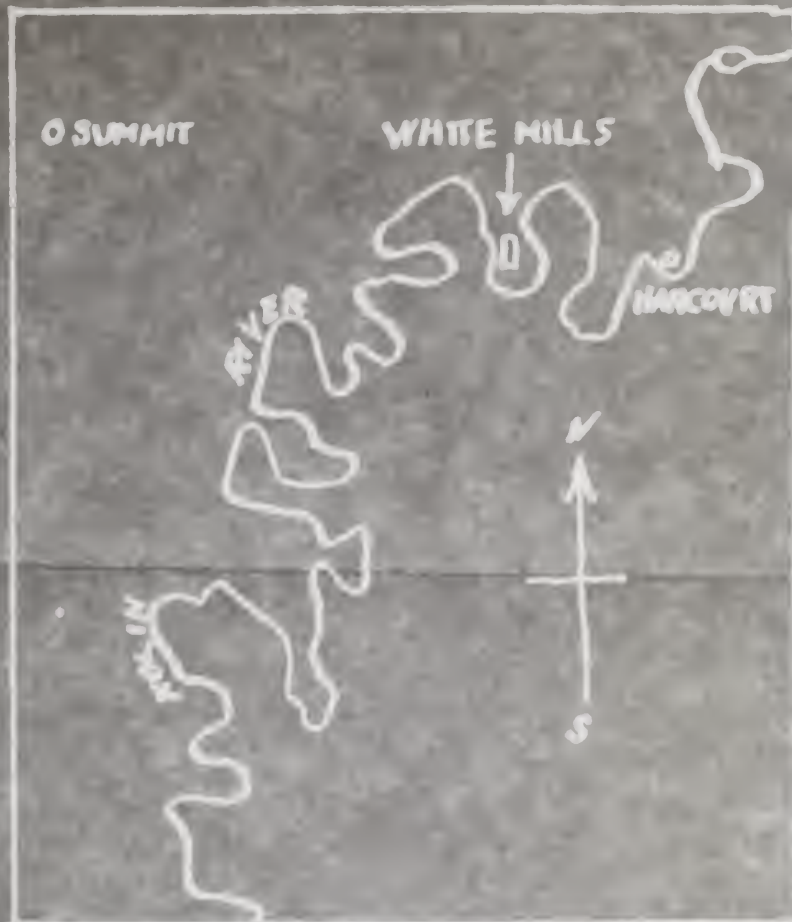
Elizabethtown - Marriage Contacts

It is a singular fact that Abraham Lincoln's marriage to Mary Todd would indirectly connect him with three prominent Elizabethtown characters, two of which were connected with the town's early history, and possible one, an acquaintance of his father, and the other to be his friend, a leader in a cause which he had to wage a determined fight to subdue.

LINCOLN CONTACTS WITH ELIZABETHTOWN AND HARDIN COUNTY

1. Foreword
2. Thomas Lincoln in Elizabethtown
3. The Elizabethtown-Lincoln Cabin
4. Sarah Bush Johnston
5. Lincoln and the Haycrafts
6. Lincoln-Haycraft Correspondence
7. Three Former Kentuckians in National Politics
8. Lincoln and Duff Green
9. Lincoln and the Edwards Family
10. Lincoln and the Wintersmiths
11. Lincoln and Ben Hardin Helm

Kentucky Has Nation's 'Crookedest' River



ARLEIN WINDS TWENTY MILES TO GO SIX



BROWN-PUSEY HOUSE, ELIZABETHTOWN, KY.



GARDEN — BROWN-PUSEY HOUSE — ELIZABETHTOWN, KENTUCKY

7A-H1917

Lincoln Cemetery, St. Mem. Pk., near U. S. 31W, 12 Miles No. of Elizabethtown, Ky.



Where Abraham Lincoln's Grandmother and Aunt are Buried

9863-N

City Celebration and Bridge Dedication Draws Hundreds to Elizabethtown Friday



Commissioner Humphreys was introduced by Senator J. E. Wise. He went into detail regarding the accomplishments of the present administration and also stated the change in policy of highway commission by which the group was meeting in each district.

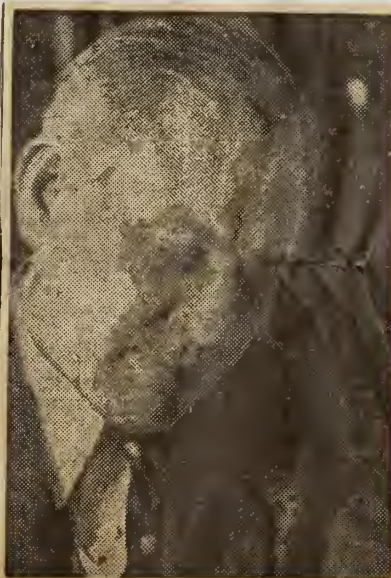
Dedicatory address of the new bridge was given by Judge George K. Holbert, who told of the reasons for calling the structure "The Lincoln - Haycraft Memorial bridge." The bridge is located approximately on the site of Haycraft's mill which was erected in the year 1797. Thomas Lincoln, the father of the 16th President, received a respectable sum of money in the construction of this mill. Abraham Lincoln also was said to have crossed this stream when entering Elizabethtown.

Luncheon was held at the Hotel Joplin for the guests and others who wished to attend. Senator J. E. Wise, who presided, called upon several of the visitors including Major T. H. Cutler, state highway engineer; Commissioners, O. M. Rogers, Covington; Roy McFarland, Owensboro; Gilbert Burnett, Louisville; Federal Engineer, Mack Galbreath, and others, for brief talks.

Following the luncheon a meeting of the Commission was held in this city at the Fourth District office.

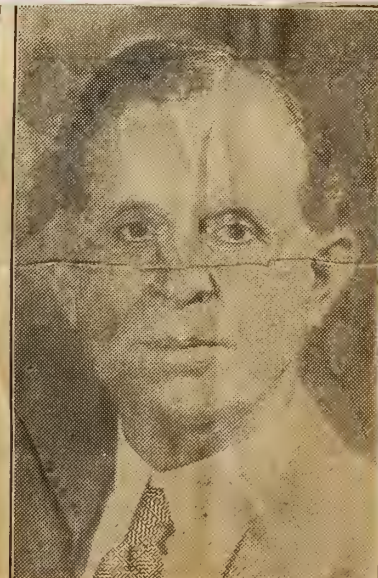


Friday. Top, left to right, Highway Commissioner Robert Humphreys, Senator J. E. Wise, and Judge George K. Holbert. Bottom: View of crowd of several hundred in attendance at the Lincoln-Haycraft Memorial bridge.



SENATOR J. E. WISE

Senator Wise presided at the luncheon in honor of the Highway Commission.



JUDGE J. R. LAYMAN

Judge Layman delivered the welcome address at the bridge ceremony.

Lincoln-Haycraft Memorial Bridge 1936

Here on Sevens Valley Creek Samuel Haycraft Senior, in the year 1797 built a mill and race way - Thomas Lincoln, father of the 16th President of the United States, was employed to assist in the construction of the primitive water mill, and it was here that he received his first regular monetary wages

Abraham Lincoln
in the year 1816, when but seven years of age, migrated with his family westward, crossing Sevens Valley Creek to enter Elizabethtown, Kentucky en-route to the State of Indiana.

The Hardin County Historical
Society 1936

Elizabethtown, Kentucky

1779-1879

The First Century of Its Existence

BY R. GERALD McMURTRY

Elizabethtown, Kentucky



Reprinted

Under the Auspices of

Woman's Club, Elizabethtown, Kentucky

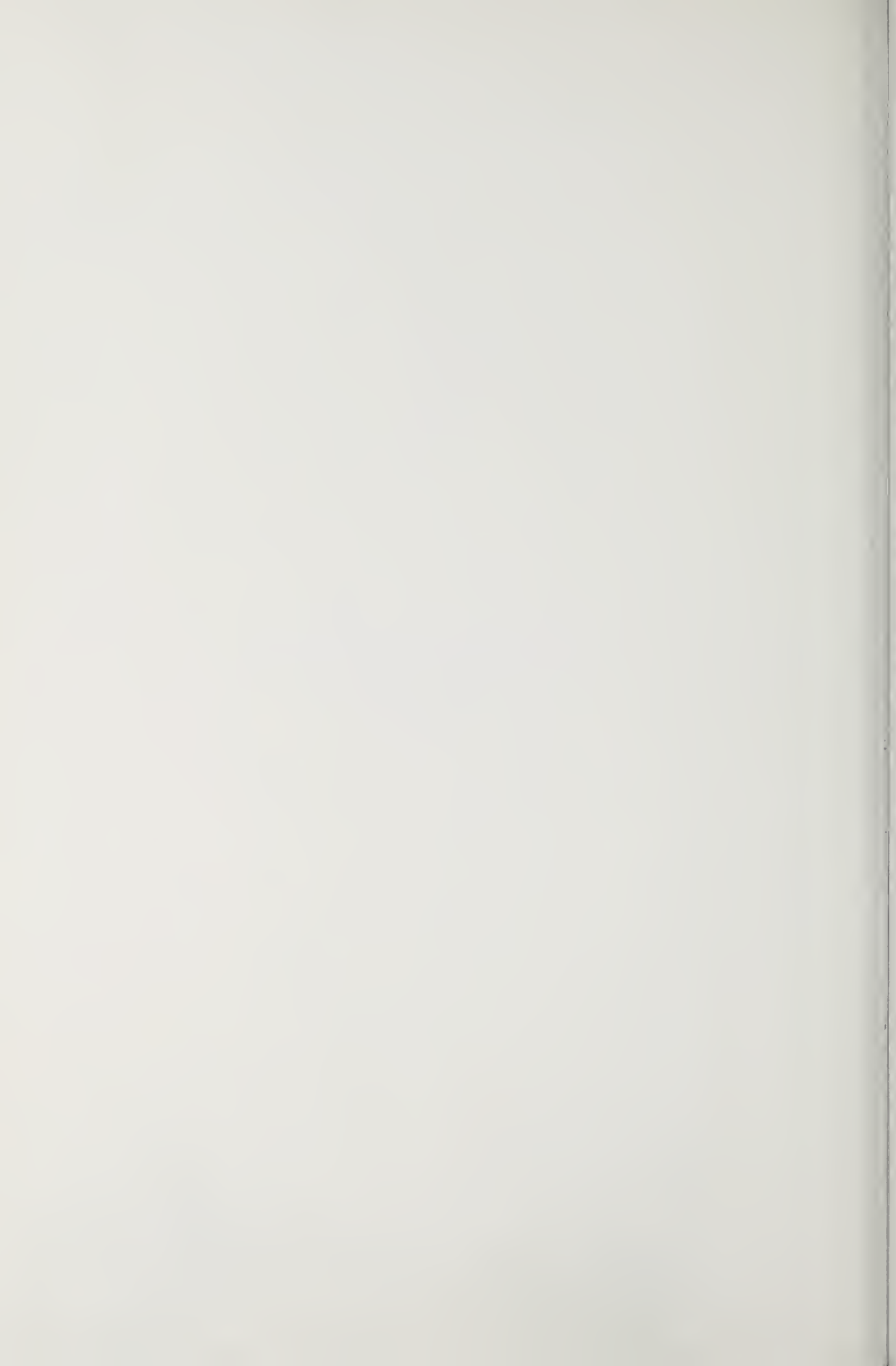
From

The Filson Club History Quarterly

Louisville, Kentucky, April, 1938

No. 2 of Vol. 12, pages 79-94





Elizabethtown, Kentucky

1779-1879

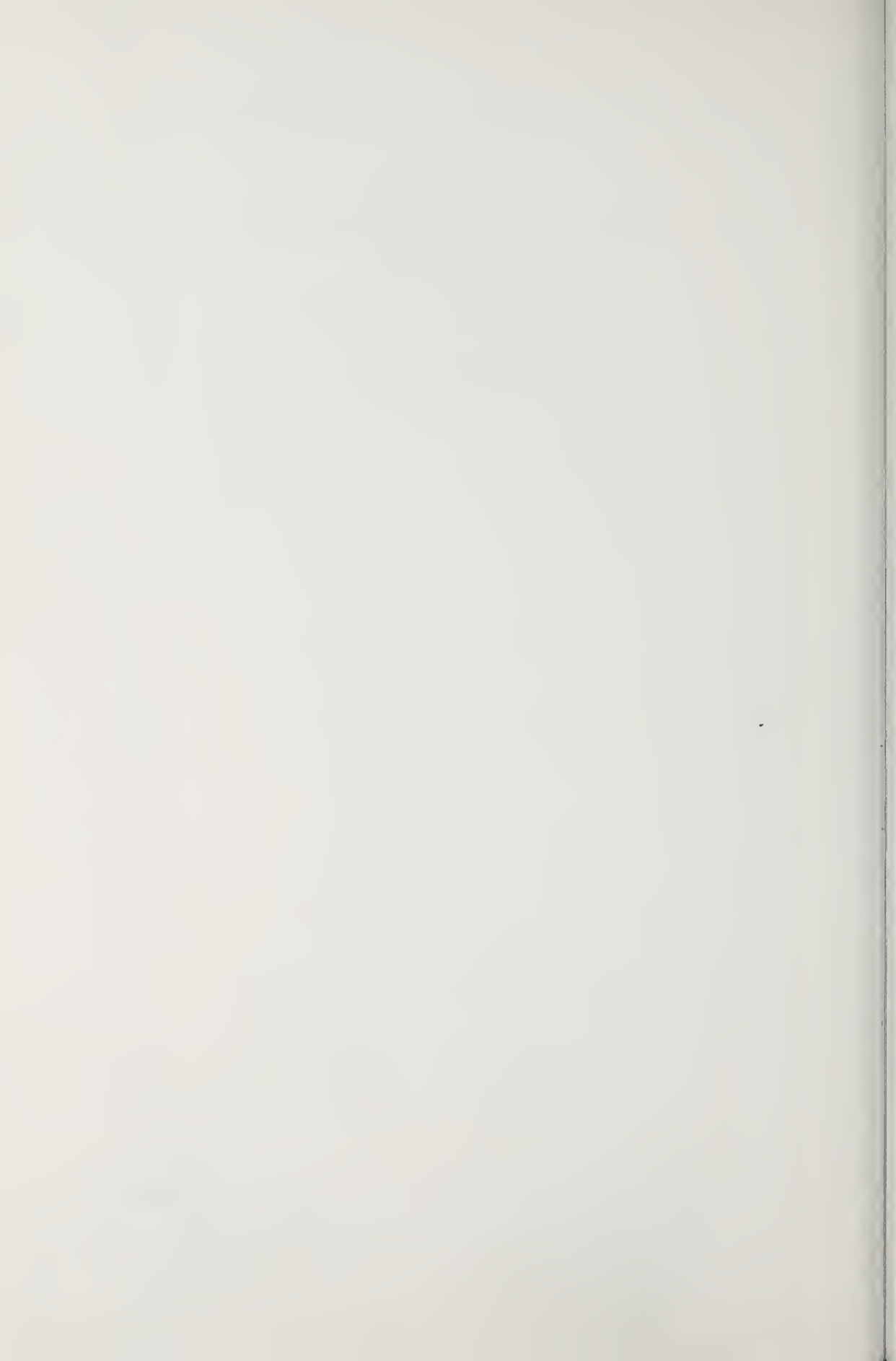
The First Century of Its Existence

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Elizabethtown, Kentucky, 1779-1879

The First Century of Its Existence

BY R. GERALD MCMURTRY

A Native of Elizabethtown, Kentucky
Director of the Lincoln Historical Research Library
Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, Tennessee

Read before The Filson Club, January 3, 1938

A study of the history of Elizabethtown and Hardin County is important to those who delve into the historic annals of our State. A discussion of a century of the events and achievements of the people in the region south of Muldraugh Hill would require more than one large volume. In this glimpse at a century, only a brief synopsis of some of the more important events and achievements can be presented. It is true that during the first century of the existence of Elizabethtown and Hardin County many prominent men in both state and national affairs were produced. It is also true that the struggle for the town's early existence, the hardships of its first settlers, their encounters with the Indians, and their efforts to establish a frontier community, recall to our minds the noble achievements of our pioneers.

Elizabethtown is located in Severn's Valley, beautiful valley so named for John Severn (or Severns), who probably was the first white man to discover the site for the pioneer settlement.

Samuel Haycraft, writing in 1869, records the following: "The valley took its name from John Severns an early adventurer, who, being attracted by the beauty of the location, entered land, and gave the name to the creek and valley . . . The greater portion of this beautiful and fertile valley was taken by John Severns, Andrew Hynes, Thomas Helm, Joseph Stover, Jacob Funk, Claudius Paul Roguet, Osburn Spriggs, John Handley, Jacob Harris, and others not now remembered. It was then in Jefferson County, and belonged to the old mother of States, Virginia; afterwards it was divided and became Nelson County."

Otis M. Mather, in his paper, "Explorers and Early Settlers South of Muldraugh Hill," written in 1923, states that John

Severn in company with Andrew Hynes, Elisha Freeman, Thomas McCarty, and Banam Shaw are believed to have built cabins in the vicinity of Elizabethtown as early as the summer of 1779. It is not likely, however, that any of these men were permanently located in the valley before the spring of 1780. There is evidence, says Judge Mather, which would lead one to believe that companies of hunters and explorers traveled through this region at an earlier date than John Severn. While such pioneers may have been pleased with this country, they evidently did not attempt to erect stations or establish a settlement.

In studying this pioneer period of Kentucky, it must be remembered that unprecedented cold prevailed from the last of November, 1779, to the following March. By the early spring of 1780 the weather moderated, and as soon as boats could move downstream, several families from Virginia and Pennsylvania settled in the pleasant valley named for John Severn. The hard winter checked migration, and permanent settlement of Elizabethtown did not begin until the spring of 1780. Samuel Haycraft, Junior, in his *History of Elizabethtown* states that: "About the fall of 1779 and winter of 1780, the early settlers were Captain Thomas Helm, Colonel Andrew Hynes, and Samuel Haycraft (Senior)."¹

Haycraft further relates that each of these pioneers "built forts with block houses." They were fort-like stockades or stations. The early settlement originally consisted of three such places situated on sites suitable for resisting Indian attacks. They formed a triangle, being spaced equidistant by a mile apart.² In spite of these precautions Elizabethtown settlers suffered

¹ Important references concerning Elizabethtown and Hardin County:

SAMUEL HAYCRAFT (Junior): *History of Elizabethtown, Kentucky and Its Surroundings*. This history was written in 1869 and published in book form (188 pages) in 1921 by the Woman's Club of Elizabethtown. Samuel Haycraft, a son of pioneer Samuel Haycraft, was born in Elizabethtown in 1795 and died there in 1878. His "History of Elizabethtown" was first printed in the *Elizabethtown News* in 1869 and reprinted in that paper in 1889-90.

LEWIS AND RICHARD H. COLLINS: *History of Kentucky*, Vol. 2, pages 306-319, a chapter on Hardin County down to 1876.

HARRY A. SOMMERS: "History of Elizabethtown." Sommers' history extends from 1869 to 1921. It was printed in the *Elizabethtown News*, in fifty-eight chapters, the first installment appearing Friday, May 27, 1921. Arrangements have been made whereby his *History of Elizabethtown* will be published in book form.

R. GERALD MCMURTRY: "Highlights in the History of Hardin County." There are fifty-one chapters, printed in installments in the *Hardin County Enterprise* from November 28, 1935, to April 29, 1937. This work will soon appear in book form.

OTIS M. MATHER: "Explorers and Early Settlers South of Muldraugh Hill." Read before The Filson Club, February 5, 1923, and published in *The Register of the Kentucky State Historical Society*, January, 1924, Vol. 22, No. 64, pages 21-39.

² Haycraft: *History of Elizabethtown*, page 12.

several attacks from marauding bands of Indians. The strategic location of the three forts, however, enabled the early inhabitants to resist with comparative few casualties. Depredations were carried on by the Indians as late as 1794, during which period several Elizabethtown families were harassed.³ One of the most interesting of Indian captivities concerns Mrs. Elizabeth Hart, who was captured in Elizabethtown and taken to Detroit, where she lingered in wretched slavery for several years, until a Frenchman there purchased her from the Indians and sent her home to her relatives.⁴

The Helm fort occupied the hill on which the old Helm residence now stands. The Hynes fort was on an elevation in the vicinity of the present Elizabethtown waterworks pumping station. The Haycraft fort was erected on a hill above a small cavern which today is called Cave Spring.⁵

When any one of these pioneer fortifications was attacked by Indians, the firing of a gun was a signal calling for help from the others or a warning to them. Shortly after the erection of these fort-like stations new pioneer families came to Severn's Valley to make their homes. These consisted of the Millers, Vertreeses, Van Meters, Harts, Shaws, Dyers, Funks, Gerrards, Handleys, Rawlings, Linders, Swanks, and numerous others.⁶

In a joint deposition of Daniel Linder and John Hart, two pioneers of the Valley, was asked the question: "What number of settlers was there in Severn's Valley in 1782?" Their answer was: "We are of [the] opinion there was upwards of twenty."

John Handley, a surveyor who came to Severn's Valley in 1780, was asked to estimate the number of inhabitants in the settlements in this region at that time. He was unable to make a definite statement as to the number of settlers, but he was of the opinion that there was a good military company at the station.⁷ For several years after Severn's Valley Station was established, the settlement was regarded as an outpost on the frontier.

Christopher Miller, one of the pioneers of this region, achieved great success as a scout for General Anthony Wayne in Wayne's Indian campaigns. In 1782 he was captured by a band of

³ Haycraft: *History of Elizabethtown*, pages 21-22.

⁴ Haycraft: *History of Elizabethtown*, pages 13-14.

⁵ Collins: *History of Kentucky*, Vol. 2, page 307, says, "These were the only settlements, at that early day, between the Falls of the Ohio and Green River."

⁶ Haycraft: *History of Elizabethtown*, page 12.

⁷ Mather: "Explorers and Early Settlers South of Muldraugh Hill," page 33.

Shawnee and Delaware Indians on Wilson's Creek, which was in what was then Jefferson County. Miller was forced to remain with the Indians for eleven years, until 1794 when he was captured by some of the scouts of General Wayne's army. While in the service of General Wayne, he was successful in bringing about a diplomatic mission of peace with the warring tribes of Shawnees, Delawares, Wyandots, and Miamis. This feat was widely acclaimed, and Miller was promised a handsome reward by General Wayne. But time went on, Wayne died, and Miller received little in the way of remuneration for his services.⁸

The first settlers of Severn's Valley were very religious, the majority of them having embraced the Baptist faith before coming to Kentucky. Finding a permanent settlement in Severn's Valley, they desired to found a church. The first organization of any kind to be established in Elizabethtown was a Baptist congregation. Eighteen people, all originally from Virginia, met in church covenant under a green sugar tree near the Hynes fort on June 18, 1781, and formally constituted a regular Baptist church. It has been in continuous existence to the present day.⁹ After duly constituting the church, Reverend John Gerrard was immediately ordained and he became the first pastor. They had no house of worship; their services were held in God's great out-of-doors or around the fires in log cabin homes.¹⁰ These pioneers established a congregation that is older than the United States Government. This church was founded four months before General Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, October 19, 1781, and is today considered the oldest church organization in Kentucky. Reverend Gerrard, the first pastor, was a victim of the savage-infested wilderness. It is believed he was killed or captured by the Indians in March, 1782, while on a hunting expedition.¹¹

Within a few years the settlement became an active community. Tradesmen, professional men, and others came to live there. Social life was developed to a high degree; schools were

⁸ Mather: Typewritten manuscript, "Christopher Miller—Indian Captive and Scout of General Anthony Wayne." Read before The Filson Club, December 4, 1933, and before the Hardin County Historical Society, June 1, 1937. See also Collins: *History of Kentucky*, Vol. 2, pages 309-310.

⁹ Ella Cofer: *History of Severn's Valley Baptist Church, 1781 to 1931*, a 23-page pamphlet, published in 1931 for the Sesqui-Centennial Celebration of Severn's Valley Baptist Church of Elizabethtown, page 4.

¹⁰ Haycraft: *History of Elizabethtown*, page 15.

¹¹ Haycraft: *History of Elizabethtown*, page 14.

established with trained teachers.¹² At this early date Colonel Andrew Hynes foresaw that this settlement would soon become a permanent community. In 1793 he had the ground surveyed and laid off into lots and streets. The town, however, was not regularly established until the July term of court in 1797.¹³ The surveyed areas contained thirty acres; it was originally the property of Andrew Hynes. Prior to his surveying Elizabethtown he was appointed, in the year 1780, by the Virginia Legislature, one of the trustees to lay off Louisville. In 1788 he received a like appointment as an original trustee of Bardstown. Leaving Elizabethtown he became a resident of Bardstown, where he died about August, 1800, while holding the office of Representative of Nelson County in the Kentucky State Legislature.¹⁴

It is of interest to note that Elizabethtown was first called Severn's Valley Station. A few years later it was called Elizabeth, in honor of Elizabeth the wife of Colonel Andrew Hynes, who was responsible for the incorporation of the town. After a court house was erected on the town square, the place was called Elizabeth-Town Court House, and, eventually, with the growth of the community, it became known as Elizabeth-Town.¹⁵ The first mention of the name Elizabethtown appears in the records of the Hardin County Court dated May, 1795.¹⁶ This village was surveyed and plotted after Hardin County was organized, in 1792, out of a part of Nelson County. Out of the original Hardin County have been carved, in whole or in part, thirteen Kentucky counties.¹⁷ The large area then embraced in Hardin County contributed materially to the early growth and development of Elizabethtown.

Elizabethtown and Hardin County may well boast of the prominence of many of their citizens. Some of the hardy woods-

¹² McMurtry: *The Lincolns in Elizabethtown, Kentucky*. A 16-page pamphlet, copyrighted 1932 by the Lincolniana Publishers of Fort Wayne, Indiana, page 1.

¹³ Collins: *History of Kentucky*. Vol. 2, page 308.

¹⁴ Mather: "Explorers and Early Settlers South of Muldraugh Hill," page 31. The first mention of the demise of Andrew Hynes in the records of the Hardin County Court is dated April 13, 1805.

¹⁵ This information was gleaned from numerous letters addressed to Samuel Haycraft, Junior, which are now filed in the Helm-Haycraft Collection, The Lincoln National Life Foundation, at Fort Wayne, Indiana. It might be well to add that some people refer to the town as "E-town."

¹⁶ Mather: "Explorers and Early Settlers South of Muldraugh Hill," page 37.

¹⁷ George K. Holbert: "Ferns of Hardin County, Kentucky," reprinted from *American Fern Journal*, Vol. 27, No. 3, July-September, 1937, pages 91-97. McMurtry: "Hardin County—1792," newspaper article, *Hardin County Enterprise*, Elizabethtown, Thursday, September 10, 1936. See also Collins: *History of Kentucky*.

men have achieved a place in recorded history, some have a fame perpetuated only by local tradition. In this brief paper we can refer to only a few.

Depositions of Squire Boone, brother of Daniel Boone, are on file in the records of the Hardin County Court, dated September, 1797, stating that he made several trips through certain sections of Hardin County between the years 1778 and 1780.¹⁸ While it is true that the brother of Daniel Boone has received comparatively little recognition, historians, nevertheless, are cognizant of the fact that he shared with Daniel the dangers of pioneer life and helped him blaze the Wilderness Road through Cumberland Gap into Kentucky. He has been called a "backwoods Achilles with no Homer to sing his praise."¹⁹ It is of interest to note that in Hardin County, only a few miles from West Point, near the Hardin-Meade County line, there is an old cemetery containing the graves of some of the relatives of Daniel Boone—some of the children and grandchildren of Squire Boone.²⁰

Considerable evidence can be produced which leads one to believe that Gilbert Imlay, the novelist, historian, and surveyor, worked within the boundaries of Hardin County, and that he was familiar with the topographical features of this territory.²¹ A letter written by Imlay dated July 20, 1785, relates that Indians were believed to be near the mouth of Salt River. This letter is one of the evidences now available concerning Imlay's connection with Hardin County.²² Imlay is Kentucky's first novelist, having written, while in Kentucky, *The Emigrants or the History of an Expatriated Family—Being a Delineation of English Manners Drawn from Real Characters*. After spending about eight years in Kentucky he went to London and in 1792 published *A Topographical Description of the Western Territory of North America*, to which, in the 1793 and in subsequent editions, he added *The Discovery, Settlement and Present State of Kentucky*, by John Filson.²³

¹⁸ Mather: "Explorers and Early Settlers South of Muldraugh Hill," page 25.

¹⁹ Newspaper article on "Squire Boone," addressed to the Editor of the *Louisville Courier-Journal*, April 24, 1932.

²⁰ Newspaper article, "Cemetery of Historical Interest," by West Point correspondent, in *The Elizabethtown News*, August 11, 1936.

²¹ McMurtry: "Gilbert Imlay in Hardin County." Newspaper article, *Hardin County Enterprise*, Elizabethtown, Thursday, March 19, 1936.

²² Original letter addressed to Woolfolk Helm in file of Helm-Hayercraft Collection, The Lincoln National Life Foundation, at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

²³ Collins: *History of Kentucky*, Vol. 2, page 27. See also John Wilson Townsend: *Kentucky in American Letters*, Vol. 1, page 12.

John James Audubon, the great artist-ornithologist, is believed to have been a resident of Elizabethtown shortly after his arrival in the Ohio Valley. Samuel Haycraft, the Elizabethtown historian, states that: "Audubon and Rozier were merchants in [the] town at an early date. Their clerk was James Hackley, who afterwards became an officer in the regular army, one of the most starchy and fine dressing men that ever lived in our town. This is the same Mr. Audubon who has since been world-renowned as the greatest ornithologist in the world."²⁴

Constance Rourke, in her biography entitled *Audubon*, makes the following statement concerning the young merchants: "They [Audubon and Rozier] purchased goods and by the Autumn of 1807 had made the journey to the Falls of the Ohio. Audubon liked the little town [Louisville], there with its back against the wilderness and they sold their goods with some success, making trips along neighboring trails as peddlers and scouring the country as far south as the village of Nashville to consider a location for a future store."²⁵

It is not at all unlikely that the two young impractical business men might have arrived in Elizabethtown with a Conestoga wagon filled with merchandise which they sold for a short period, either from their store on wheels or from a building which they could have rented for a short period, and when their stock of goods was sold, moved on to a new field of exploitation. Haycraft's fragmentary record concerning Audubon is one of the cherished traditions of Elizabethtown.²⁶

Shortly after Audubon's sojourn in Elizabethtown and Hardin County came the memorable event of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, on February 12, 1809, which, of course, did not then create a ripple of excitement in the back settlements of Hardin County. The story of Lincoln's birth has been told and retold on every continent and will not be repeated here. It must be stated, however, that some new phases of Lincoln's Kentucky environment are being discussed in intelligent historical circles, based on authenticated facts and new documentary evidence. It is not the attempt of Lincoln biographers and historians to make Lincoln "a little Lord Fauntleroy of the wilderness"; nevertheless, historians should not be blind to documentary

²⁴ Haycraft: *History of Elizabethtown*, page 108.

²⁵ Constance Rourke: *Audubon* (1936), pages 37-38.

²⁶ McMurtry: "John James Audubon In Elizabethtown and Hardin County," newspaper article, *Hardin County Enterprise*, Thursday, January 14, 1937.

recorded evidence, even if it does prove that Lincoln was not born in abject poverty, as some people wish to believe.²⁷ Hardin County is world-famous for one outstanding historical event, and that event is the birth of Abraham Lincoln. It is my opinion that for this reason people throughout the world have heard more about Hardin County than any other county in Kentucky. Elizabethtown has many Lincoln contacts. It was in Elizabethtown that the President's parents made their first home. Sarah, their first child, was born there on February 10, 1807. It was in Elizabethtown that Nancy Hanks experienced her second premonition of motherhood, which resulted in the birth of Abraham Lincoln while his parents resided on their farm on the South Fork of Nolin River.²⁸

The area within the triangle which was formed by the three original Elizabethtown forts today provides the area of Elizabethtown. It is a coincidence that the location of the forts should prove to be outposts of the present town. The sites of the forts are today not within the present city limits. While Elizabethtown enjoyed permanent growth, it is surprising to learn that the census of 1810 listed only 180 inhabitants.²⁹ An important milestone in the development of Elizabethtown was achieved on January 26, 1818, when an independent bank was organized with a capital stock of \$100,000.00.³⁰

The first newspaper in Elizabethtown was the *Western Intelligencer*, which began in the year 1826.³¹ Since that time eighteen different newspapers were published in the town. The *Elizabethtown News*, established in 1869, and the *Hardin County Enterprise*, established in 1926, are the two being published now.³²

One of the most versatile and distinguished men who ever resided in Elizabethtown was Duff Green.³³ He was a school teacher, soldier, politician, diplomat, and statesman. His accomplishments were outstanding and unique, and all that he lacks for enduring fame is a competent biographer to relate his achievements. He served as a teacher in the Elizabethtown

²⁷ Editorial, "Defending Abe," in *The Louisville Times*, December 7, 1937: A comment on "Three Generations of Kentucky Lincolns," by Louis A. Warren, read before The Filson Club, December 6, 1937.

²⁸ McMurtry: *The Lincolns in Elizabethtown, Kentucky*, page 3.

²⁹ Lucius P. Little: *Ben Hardin, His Times and Contemporaries* (1887), page 31.

³⁰ Collins: *History of Kentucky*, Vol. 1, page 28.

³¹ Collins: *History of Kentucky*, Vol. 2, page 312.

³² McMurtry: "Highlights In The History of Hardin County," newspaper article, *Hardin County Enterprise*, Thursday, December 24, 1936.

³³ Haycraft: *History of Elizabethtown*, pages 109-111.

Academy, and while engaged in this profession he volunteered as a soldier in a company called the "Yellow Jackets" to fight in a campaign up the Wabash against the Indians. Upon his return to Elizabethtown he formed a mercantile partnership with Major Ben Helm. About one year after his arrival in Elizabethtown, Green married Lucretia Edwards, a sister of Governor Ninian Edwards, the first Territorial Governor of Illinois. In 1817 he received the appointment of Surveyor of Public Lands in Missouri, and while engaged in that work was commissioned a general in the militia. Advancement was rapid in the career of Duff Green. He eventually became Government Printer. The highest peak of his career was confidential adviser to President Andrew Jackson as a member of Jackson's famous "Kitchen Cabinet."³⁴

At a very early date Elizabethtown was noted for its excellent bar. Samuel Haycraft in his history stated: "By 1806 twenty-two lawyers had been admitted to the Hardin County Bar." The first attorney to be admitted was James Dohertie. This lawyer was recognized as an attorney before the first Quarter Session Court of Hardin County, which convened on February 26, 1793. Some of the early Elizabethtown lawyers were Felix Grundy, Thomas B. Reed, Ninian Edwards, Henry P. Brodnax, John Rowan, John Pope, William P. Duvall, Robert Wickliffe, and others. Several of these men became governors of states, while others represented their people in both houses of Congress. Haycraft observes of certain lawyers who practiced at Elizabethtown that any of them were: "far ahead in legal knowledge, statesmanship, and administrative capacity of some of our presidents."³⁵

Many historians have recorded the accomplishments of the first members of the Elizabethtown bar. The early life of one of them, William P. Duvall, an Elizabethtown lawyer, became a subject for a sketch in American literature written by the famed Washington Irving.³⁶ Under the title of "The Early Experiences

³⁴ McMurtry: "Duff Green, Elizabethtown Citizen," newspaper article, *Hardin County Enterprise*, Thursday, November 12, 1936. "Lincoln and Duff Green April, 1865," newspaper article, *Hardin County Enterprise*, Wednesday, November 25, 1936. "Lincoln, Green and Buchanan, Three Former Hardin County Residents In National Politics In The Year 1860," newspaper article, *Hardin County Enterprise*, Thursday, April 19, 1934.

³⁵ Haycraft: *History of Elizabethtown*, pages 171-184, 177-188.

³⁶ McMurtry: "Elizabethtown Lawyer—Subject of Sketch By Washington Irving," newspaper article, *Hardin County Enterprise*, Thursday, February 4, 1937. "William P. Duvall In Elizabethtown, Kentucky," newspaper article, *Hardin County Enterprise*, Thursday, February 11, 1937.

of Ralph Ringwood," appearing in Wolfert's Roost and Other Papers and in the Sketchbook of Geoffrey Crayon, Irving discussed some of the interesting local events in the early manhood of Duvall.³⁷ This noteworthy character became Territorial Governor of Florida in 1822, by appointment of President Monroe, and was reappointed by Presidents Adams and Jackson. Duvall practiced before the Elizabethtown courts for many years, holding the position of County Attorney of Hardin County for a considerable period. While residing in Bardstown Duvall married a daughter of Colonel Andrew Hynes.³⁸

The fact that James Buchanan, the fifteenth president of the United States, resided in Elizabethtown during part of the year 1813 has received little notice.³⁹ At this time young Buchanan had just completed his legal education and had been admitted to the Lancaster, Pennsylvania, bar. He came to Elizabethtown to represent his father in his Hardin County land litigations. While Buchanan was residing in Elizabethtown, young Abraham Lincoln was living on his father's farm on Knob Creek, twelve miles from Elizabethtown. Here, for a while, lived two persons who became succeeding presidents of the United States and were destined to control the nation's affairs in the most critical period of its history.⁴⁰ In addition to Hardin County's two succeeding presidents, whose terms ran from 1857 to 1865, records show that three Kentucky governors—James Proctor Knott, Simon Bolivar Buckner, and John Young Brown—whose terms ran from 1883 to 1895, all lived, for a time, in Hardin County and succeeded each other to that position.⁴¹

The most notable stepmother of all history was Sarah Bush Johnston, a native of Elizabethtown. She was the daughter of Christopher Bush, of German descent, an early settler in Elizabethtown and an industrious and influential citizen. Sarah Bush first married Daniel Johnston, a jailer of Hardin County, who died in 1816. She married Thomas Lincoln on December 2, 1819, and accompanied her husband from Elizabethtown to the Lincoln home in Indiana. There she presided over the Lincoln

³⁷ Washington Irving: "The Early Experiences of Ralph Ringwood, Noted Down from His Conversations, by Geoffrey Crayon, Gent." Published in Irving's *Wolfert's Roost and Other Papers*, also in *Sketchbook of Geoffrey Crayon* and in *Sketches*.

³⁸ Haycraft: *History of Elizabethtown*, pages 184-186.

³⁹ Collins: *History of Kentucky*, Vol. 2, page 310.

⁴⁰ McMurtry: "James Buchanan in Kentucky, 1813," a 16-page pamphlet reprinted from *The Filson Club History Quarterly*, April, 1934, Vol. 8, No. 2, pages 73-87.

⁴¹ Sommers: *History of Elizabethtown*, Chapter 47.

household, including the young Abraham Lincoln, with unusual success. Her encouragement and understanding during the president's boyhood years most likely helped him achieve greater heights in statesmanship than would have been possible if she had not treated him like her own son during his impressionable youth.⁴²

A tradition has it that Andrew Jackson passed through Elizabethtown on his way from the Hermitage to Washington, where he was to be inaugurated the seventh president. He traveled by way of the old Louisville and Nashville Turnpike and while enroute to the capital spent the night in the old log Munford Inn at Munfordville.⁴³

Other famous travelers along this highway were Jenny Lind, Nathaniel P. Willis, and Bayard Taylor. Willis in his work *A Health Trip to the Tropics* and Taylor in his book *At Home and Abroad* both went into detail concerning this well-known route of travel.⁴⁴

Recorded military history relates some interesting facts in regard to Elizabethtown and Hardin County. Military records reveal that many soldiers were recruited from this area during the Indian Wars, the War of 1812, and the Mexican War.⁴⁵ One entry dated August 31, 1847, shows that a company of infantry was organized from Hardin County for service in the Mexican War.⁴⁶ Civil War records contain the names of numerous Elizabethtown and Hardin County soldiers who fought for the North and the South in the War Between the States. Many of the old graves contain the remains of Revolutionary soldiers who settled in Severn's Valley after the War for Independence.

An Elizabethtown lawyer attained great eminence in the military legal profession, eventually becoming a contemporary of Abraham Lincoln during the period of the Civil War. This attorney was Judge Joseph Holt, who began the practice of law

⁴² Louis A. Warren: "Sarah Bush Lincoln, The Stepmother of Abraham Lincoln," a 12-page pamphlet, reprinted from the *Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society*, 1926.

⁴³ There are many local traditions pertaining to well-known men and women having stopped in Elizabethtown and other parts of Hardin County, but our limited space permits no further reference to them.

⁴⁴ Samuel G. Boyd: "The Louisville and Nashville Turnpike," read before The Filson Club, November 2, 1925, and published in *The Register* of the Kentucky State Historical Society, May, 1926, Vol. 24, No. 71, pages 163-174; pages 168-170.

⁴⁵ McMurtry: "Captain Spier Spencer's Mounted Riflemen—The Yellow Jackets," newspaper article, *Hardin County Enterprise*, Thursday, April 1, 1937.

⁴⁶ Collins: *History of Kentucky*, Vol. 1, page 55.

in Elizabethtown in the year 1828. He achieved the positions of Postmaster General, Secretary of War, and Judge-Advocate General. Judge Holt bore a conspicuous part in various court-martials and military commissions, especially in that which tried the assassins of the martyred sixteenth President.⁴⁷

Elizabethtown was the home of two governors of Kentucky, John L. Helm and John Young Brown. Governor Helm served his state from the year 1850 to 1852 and was re-elected after the close of the Civil War. On September 3, 1867, while on his deathbed in Elizabethtown, he was inaugurated for his second term as governor.⁴⁸ On September 8, 1867, Governor Helm died and his remains today lie buried near the ancestral Helm home in Elizabethtown. Governor Helm had a distinguished son named Ben Hardin Helm who was a Confederate general, commander of the "Orphan Brigade," and a brother-in-law of Mrs. Abraham Lincoln.⁴⁹ This gallant soldier was born and reared in Elizabethtown and now lies buried in the Helm burial lot. John Young Brown, who served as Governor of Kentucky from the year 1891 to 1895, was born only a short distance from the Helm homestead—a family of many distinguished Kentuckians.⁵⁰

An eventful occasion in the history of Elizabethtown was the visit of Jenny Lind on April 5, 1851.⁵¹ Among the legends concerning the Swedish nightingale there is hardly a more pleasing one than the Elizabethtown tradition. Elizabethtown was, at that time, and would be today, incapable of contributing materially any large financial returns to such an artistic genius. Yet this noble woman stood upon the elevated steps of an Elizabethtown inn and sang in her wonderful voice, to a multitude of people, without thought of gain or acclaim.⁵² Fortunately those stone steps are preserved; they lead to the entrance of the Brown-Pusey Community House of Elizabethtown.⁵³

Probably the most important and most talked-of trial ever brought before the Hardin County court was the case of the

⁴⁷ *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. IX (1932), page 181.

⁴⁸ Collins: *History of Kentucky*, Vol. 2, page 312.

⁴⁹ McMurtry: "Ben Hardin Helm—Elizabethtown's Forgotten Hero," newspaper article, *Hardin County Enterprise*, Thursday, November 5, 1936.

⁵⁰ Sommers: "Some Governors I Have Known," newspaper article, *The Elizabethtown News*, December 20, 1935.

⁵¹ McMurtry: "Jenny Lind's Tour of Kentucky, April 1851," *Kentucky Progress Magazine*, January, 1932, Vol. 4, No. 5.

⁵² Affidavit of Ella Thomas Welch, of Danville, Kentucky, dated October, 1931.

⁵³ Samuel G. Boyd: "The Louisville and Nashville Turnpike," page 168. See footnote No. 44.

Commonwealth vs. Matt. F. Ward for the murder of Professor W. H. G. Butler.⁶⁴ This killing, which occurred in Louisville, is recorded as one of the outstanding criminal cases in the Kentucky courts. By a change of venue it was transferred from the Jefferson Circuit Court to the Hardin Circuit Court. It aroused the most intense feeling, and the press featured the affair as one of the big news stories of the year. This case was brought before the docket at the first term of the Hardin Circuit Court in April, 1854. The counsel for both the prosecution and the defense was composed of some of the most distinguished lawyers in Kentucky, with the bulk of the talent and ability on the side of the defense. The Hardin County jury brought in a verdict of not guilty, which verdict was considered the outstanding miscarriage of justice in the annals of the Kentucky courts.⁶⁵

During the Christmas holidays of the year 1862 the citizens of Elizabethtown witnessed the most exciting event that ever occurred in that community. From Alexandria, Tennessee, rode the fearless Confederate General John Hunt Morgan and his force of 3,900 men. Their chief object was to destroy the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. Union forces had erected a garrison in Elizabethtown to resist Confederate attacks. On the night of the twenty-sixth of December, Morgan's men went into camp a few miles south of Elizabethtown. A regiment of Illinois troops, 652 strong, was stationed in Elizabethtown. After determining the strength of the Union forces, General Morgan threw a cordon of men around the town and, placing his artillery upon the cemetery hill, opened fire. Approximately one hundred shots were fired, which demolished not only the Elizabethtown garrison, but other places as well. The Federals, realizing they could not maintain their defense, surrendered to General Morgan.⁶⁶

On July 11, 1864, Elizabethtown was attacked by a band of guerrillas, but they were dispersed.⁶⁷ On December 23, 1864, almost two years to a day from the date of Morgan's raid,

⁶⁴ McMurtry: "The Hardin Criminal Court Trial of Matt F. Ward For The Murder of Prof. W. H. G. Butler—April Term 1854," newspaper article, *Hardin County Enterprise*, Thursday, September 17, 1936.

⁶⁵ Among other books on the subject is *A Full and Authentic Report of the Trial of Matt. F. Ward*, reported by A. D. Richardson (176 pages, New York, 1854). Another covers the trial as reported by George Cole for the *Louisville Courier* and the *Louisville Democrat* and republished in 1854, in a book of 174 pages.

⁶⁶ Hal Engerud: "Morgan's Christmas Raid, 1862," *Kentucky Progress Magazine*, December, 1931, Vol. 4, No. 4, pages 13, 36-38.

⁶⁷ Collins: *History of Kentucky*, Vol. 1, page 135.

General H. B. Lyons' Confederate force seized a train at Nolin Station, in Hardin County. They captured 200 Federal troops and wildly galloped to Elizabethtown the same day. After laying siege to the Union garrison of forty-five men, they burned the stockade, railroad depot, and two bridges. With the arrival of a Federal detachment, General Lyon hastily retreated south. He by no means had the success of Morgan in disabling, for any length of time, the Louisville and Nashville Railroad.⁵⁸

Located on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, Elizabethtown was a strategic point during the Civil War. In the years following the first outbreak of hostilities, the village viewed with great concern the inevitable struggle during which time it would be torn first by one side and then by the other. The town and county has never again experienced such hectic and exciting days as those of the Civil War; nevertheless, the town's citizens led a gay existence, and its social life was then at its height. Many hosts were continually busy entertaining first a general or some other officer from the South and then one from the North. Activity in society, business, and military affairs caused the village to awaken from its lethargy, and Elizabethtown soon became one of the most important places between Louisville and Nashville.⁵⁹

The growth of Elizabethtown was exceptional in the year 1868, when about seventy new houses were erected within the town's limits.⁶⁰ In 1869, on the 7th of August, at one o'clock in the afternoon, a fire broke out which spread with such rapidity that a large portion of Elizabethtown's business section was reduced to ruins. It has been said that within two hours the earnings of twenty years were destroyed. The loss was estimated to range between one hundred thousand and one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.⁶¹ About the time the fire was subdued, there occurred a total eclipse of the sun, the most remarkable since the year 1806. Kentucky was in the main belt of obscurity. The thermometer rose and fell fourteen

⁵⁸ Collins: *History of Kentucky*, Vol. 1, page 150.

⁵⁹ McMurtry: "Stirring Events of The Civil War In Elizabethtown and Hardin County," newspaper article, *Hardin County Enterprise*, Thursday, January 16, 1936.

⁶⁰ Collins: *History of Kentucky*, Vol. 1, page 194.

⁶¹ Collins: *History of Kentucky*, Vol. 1, page 197.

degrees in one hour, and birds and fowls went to roost.⁶² Superstitious people, emotionally affected by the conflagration, believed the world was coming to an end. August 7, 1869, was the saddest day in the history of Elizabethtown.

From 1871 to 1873 General George Armstrong Custer was stationed in Elizabethtown with his famous battalion of the Seventh Cavalry and a battalion of the Fourth Infantry.⁶³ This command was stationed in town for two years, with the pretext of suppressing the Ku Klux Klan and the Carpet Baggers, and to break up illicit distilleries which began to flourish in the South during the War. As Elizabethtown was not affected by any of these groups, Custer and his men settled down for a prolonged rest, which they deserved after years of active warfare. The two years' residence of General Custer in Elizabethtown was one of the most pleasant periods of the town's existence. Custer was accepted by both Northern and Southern sympathizers as an outstanding general. His courteous and distinguished bearing made him appear as a Richard Coeur-de-Lion of the Nineteenth Century. In the spring of 1873 Custer and his command were ordered to Dakota Territory. In 1876 when news of Custer's Last Stand reached Elizabethtown, there was much sorrow expressed over the death of this valiant soldier. Probably no community in the United States was more affected by this massacre than Elizabethtown, for there Custer and his men had many sincere friends.⁶⁴

Elizabethtown has never been a boom town, yet it has always enjoyed a steady growth and development. Its history is rich with facts and traditions; its people are intelligent and cultured; its geographical location affords it an important place on the arteries of travel; its physical characteristics are beautiful and healthful, and its private homes and business buildings are quaint and interesting. Since 1879, the close of the first century of its existence, the town has made rapid strides, and it is today one of the most progressive communities in the State. It can

⁶² Haycraft: *History of Elizabethtown*, pages 86-91.

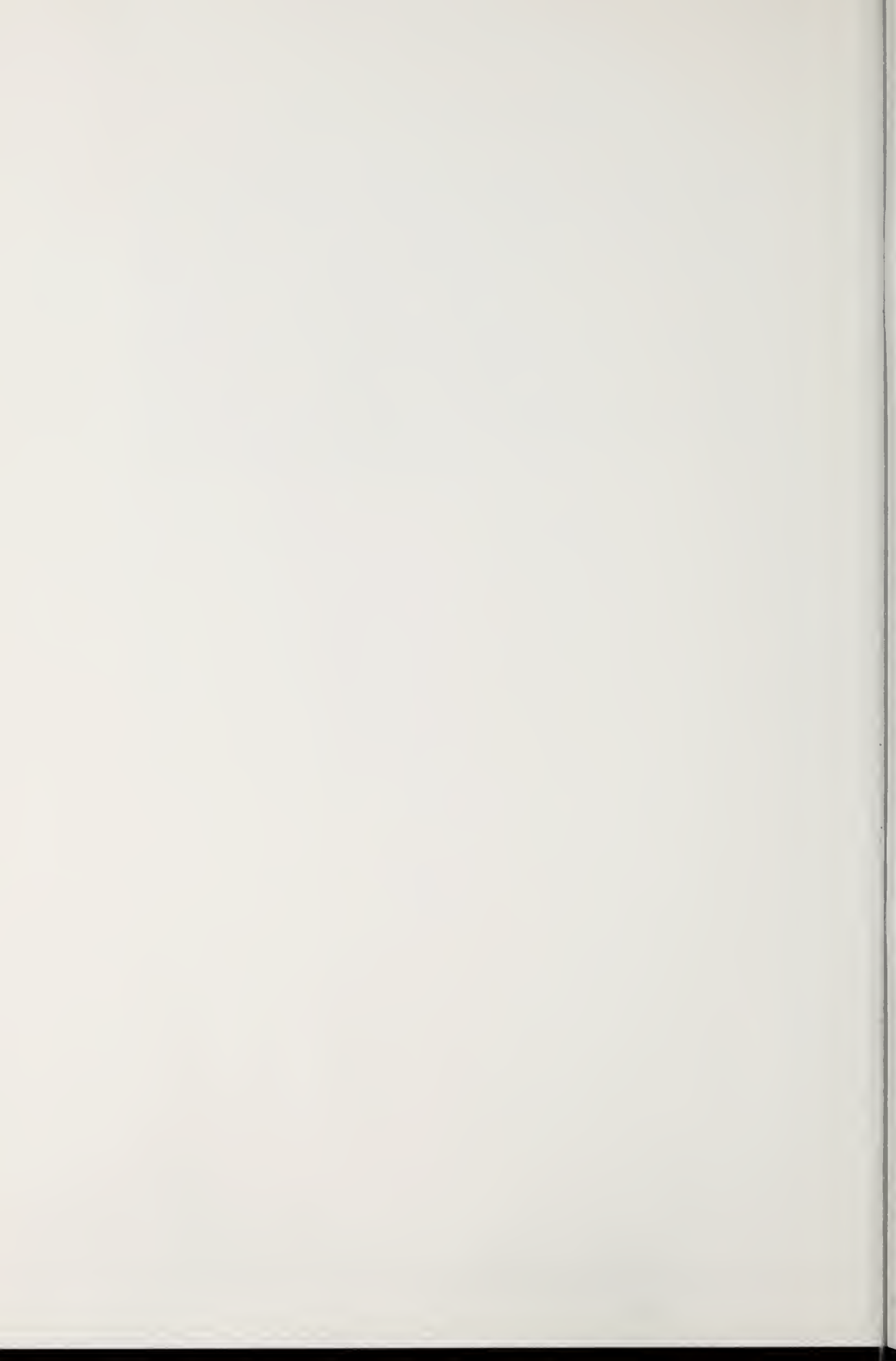
⁶³ Sommers: *History of Elizabethtown*, Chapter 6, "General Custer Stationed Here." For Sommers' forthcoming history see our footnote No. 1.

⁶⁴ McMurtry: "The Two-Year Residence of General George A. Custer in Elizabethtown," *Kentucky Progress Magazine*, Parks Edition, Summer, 1933, Vol. 5, No. 4, pages 32, 33, 50.

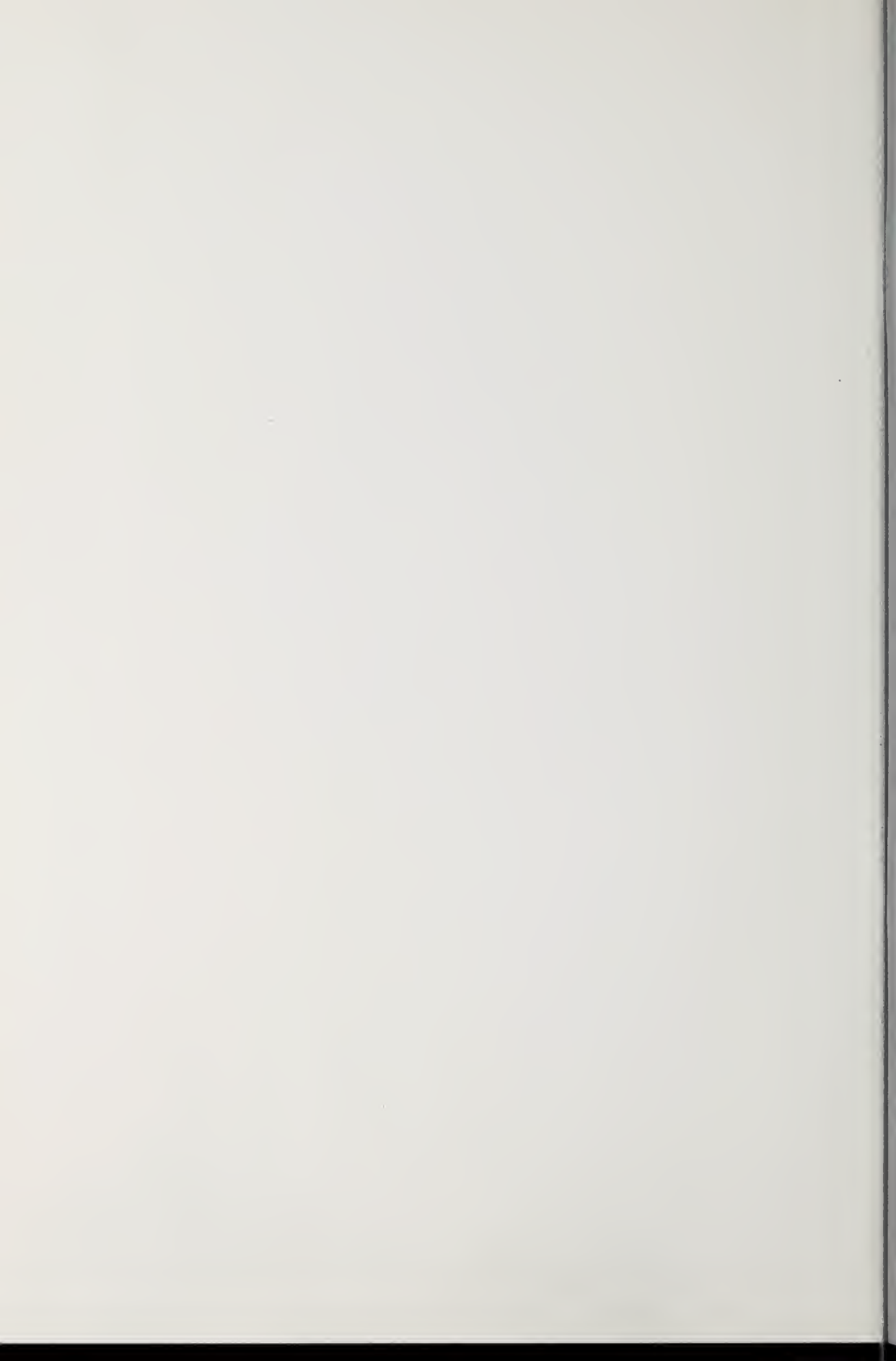
be said to the credit of its citizens that they are mindful of their historical traditions and are making every effort to preserve them for posterity. The future of the town is well described by a paragraph in the *History of Elizabethtown*, written by Samuel Haycraft, Junior, in 1869, near the close of the first century of Elizabethtown's existence:

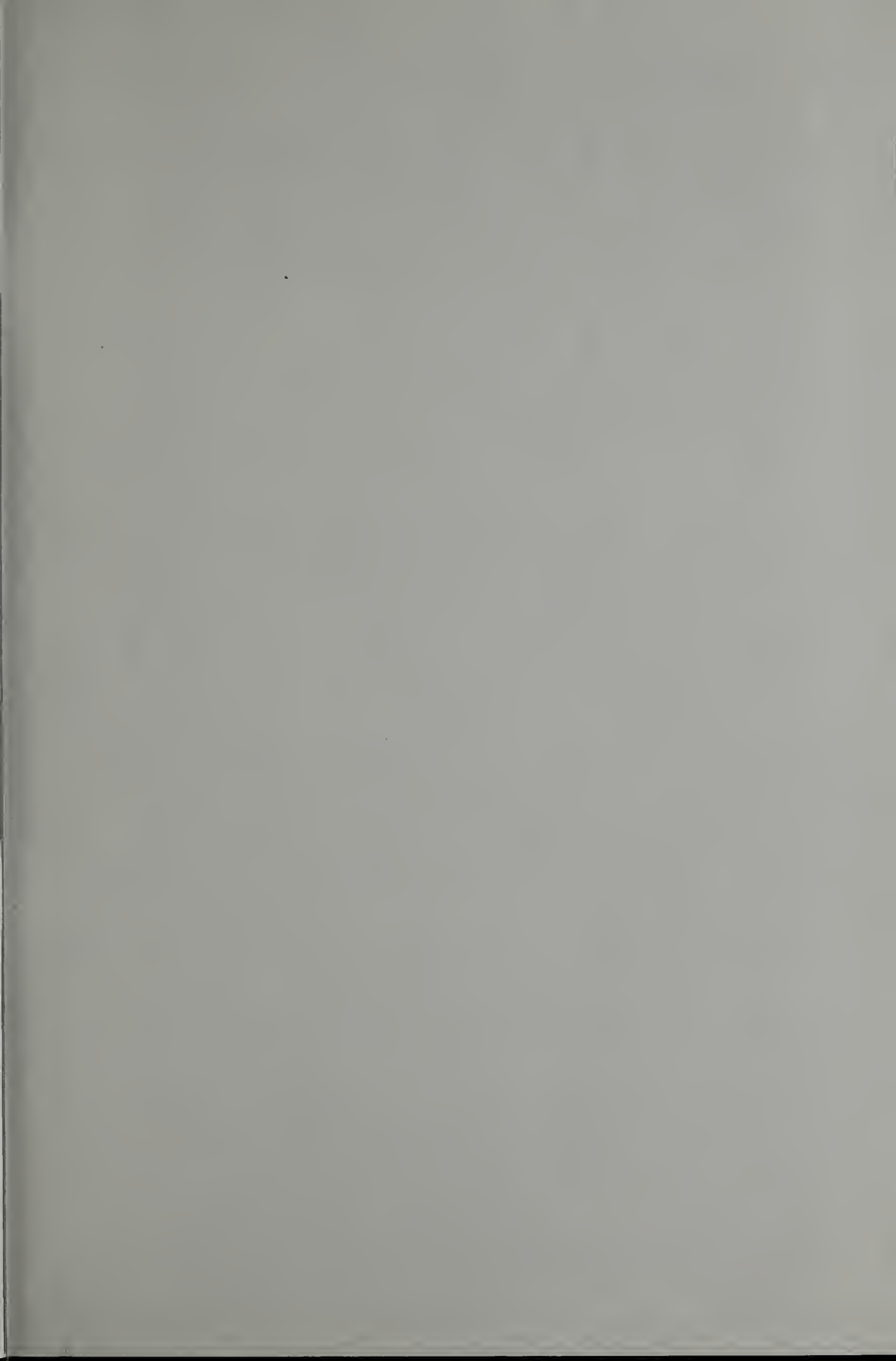
"For who can tell what Elizabethtown will be with her delightful and healthy location, with her enterprising and energetic population, her railroad facilities, her fine water, and her surrounding of intelligent and gentlemanly farmers, the best fruit country in the world, and her future manufactories that must spring up, and when it becomes a large city it will be well to look back upon her starting point."













Ferns of Hardin County, Kentucky

GEORGE K. HOLBERT

Hardin County, one of the largest counties of the State, is situated in north-central Kentucky. Its fern flora is no doubt more or less typical of many other counties. The original county, formed in 1792, exceeded in size the State of Delaware, and from it have been carved in whole or in part thirteen present counties. It is easily accessible, being traversed by the main lines of the Louisville & Nashville and the Illinois Central Railroads and bordering the Ohio River on the north. The Dixie Highway, spanning the country from north to south, and the Central Highway, from east to west, cross each other in the county-seat, Elizabethtown, some twenty-five miles northeast of which is "My Old Kentucky Home," where Stephen Collins Foster wrote the famous song of that name; while half as far to the southeast is the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln, now a national shrine, and twice as far to the south is the Mammoth Cave, one of the natural wonders of the world.

Topographically, Hardin County may be divided into three characteristic sections: Muldraugh's Hill in the northern part, a continuation of the chain of scenic hills known in Indiana as The Knobs; the "barrens" in the central part, and undulating plains in the southern part. On the high points of Muldraugh's Hill is a thin formation of Warsaw rock and lower down the eroded sides sandstones, shales and limestones, with frequent wet-weather springs and waterfalls. Passing to the south from Elizabethtown one encounters a cherty limestone of the St. Louis group, which disintegrates easily, forming a somewhat reddish but productive soil that enters largely into the once noted wheat-lands. A large portion of the surface rock of the county is sub-carboniferous and fre-

quent "sinkholes," and not infrequent caverns, are incident to this formation.

The county lies along the Ohio and Salt Rivers on the north and the Rolling Fork on the northeast, while the southern and western portions are traversed respectively by the Nolin and Rough Rivers and their tributaries. It has numerous fine streams and valleys, large stretches of agricultural lands and woodlands, marshy flats, sand- and limestone ridges and cedar glades. A hundred or more deciduous forest trees are native, the oaks predominating, with such evergreens as the cedars and pines and occasional holly and haunts of hemlock.

While Muldraugh's Hill reaches higher elevations (but less than 1,000 feet above sea level), yet the finest fern stations of the county are among the picturesque hills along Rough River in the western border, where sandstone cliffs rise fifty and a hundred feet in a single perpendicular ascent, with a limestone base revealed in the bottoms of the ravines. There are numerous small streams and springs, some tumbling down precipitous ledges and forming clear pools at the base. The soil for the most part is sandy and stony, of rather poor quality, but rich with leafmold in the deep woods, very soft and loose about the cliffs and boulders, and in places seeping with tannic ooze. The elevation runs some 450 to 650 feet. Here in the "Dismal Hollow," between rugged sandstone walls a hundred feet high, where a cool stream winds down a thickly wooded alluvial gorge to Culverson Creek and where it is said locally "the sun never shines," I first saw ferns enough at one time—*Athyrium aerostichoides*, *A. angustum* and *A. pycnocarpon*, *Onoclea sensibilis*, *Dryopteris intermedia* and *D. marginalis*, clumps and stretches of fern waist-high, elbowing for standing room, with *Polypodium virginianum*, *Cystopteris bulbifera* and *C. fragilis*, *Camptosorus rhizophyllus*, and *As-*

plenium trichomanes climbing over rocks and the wet and mossy cheeks of cliffs. "Moonshine Cliff," just over the county line, is a two-story cliff, one high above the other (with abandoned relics of moonshine stills in each story). A clear stream pours down making a double cataract and forming a crystal pool at the base, about which is a perfect carpet of soft green woven by twining *Cystopteris bulbifera* with gracefully tapering fronds a yard in length. "Lovers' Leap," the "Raven's Nest," "Beech Woods," and the retreats about Hill's Mill are other localities enchanting with their wilderness of ferns.

I have found more frequent *Osmunda* stations in the quadrant between the Hodgenville road and the Central Highway. In a station back of Round Top schoolhouse all three of the *Osmundas* are growing together, *O. claytoniana* apparently excelling, while in a wet draw near New Summit *O. regalis* is especially stately. *Adiantum pedatum*, *Asplenium platyneuron*, *Botrychium virginianum*, *Dryopteris hexagonoptera*, *Pteridium latiusculum*, *Polystichum acrostichoides*, *Athyrium angustum*, and *Woodsia obtusa* are common over the county.

I submit the following list of native ferns I have found growing in Hardin County:

ADIANTUM PEDATUM L. American maidenhair. Common in rich well-drained woods. Though usually on a moderate incline or slope and apparently preferring a moist, drained, open shade, yet I have found large colonies in dry stony bramble shade, and creeping out into open sun, at foot of northern slopes of Muldraugh's Hill.

ASPENIUM PINNATIFIDUM L. Lobed spleenwort. Clinging in small pockets or tight crevices of sandstone cliffs. Though reported by Williamson as common in Kentucky, I have found it rather rare in this county and in stations of two or three to half a dozen individuals.

ASPLENIUM PLATYNEURON (L.) Oakes. Ebony spleenwort. Common in dry stony thickets, shaded fence corners and wooded bluffs. The rankest and densest station I have seen was in a blackberry thicket on the side of a road near Hill's Mill in scanty shade.

ASPLENIUM TRICHOMANES L. Maidenhair spleenwort. Rather rare. In crevices and moss on porous sandstone cliffs and boulders. One boulder found in dense shade near Hardin Springs has a considerable blanket.

ATHYRIUM ACROSTICHOIDES (Sw.) Diels. Silvery spleenwort. In deep wooded ravines, especially along streams, in rich accumulations of humus and leafmold in light sandy and silicious soils, frequently near foot of densely shaded sandstone cliff. One of our finest and most thrifty ferns. 3 to 4 feet in height.

ATHYRIUM ANGUSTUM (Willd.) Presl. Upland lady fern. A common fern of many mutations. Prefers half shade to deep shade, but less frequent and smaller plants are found in more sunny places. Wet, moist or dry soil. 1 to 3½ or 4 feet.

ATHYRIUM PYCNOCARPON (Spreng.) Tidestrom. Narrowleaf spleenwort. (Dr. Wherry has suggested the rather happy common name, "glade fern"—*AM. FERN JOURNAL*, vol. 25, p. 64.) Rather common than not; half open woods and glady places; in rich soil up the banks of ravines. A large and somewhat pretentious but fragile fern.

BOTRYCHIUM VIRGINIANUM (L.) Sw. Rattlesnake fern. A solitary fern common in dry and rather open woods.

CAMPTOSORUS RHIZOPHYLLUS (L.) Link. Walking fern. Though mentioned as rare by Mrs. Parsons, I am convinced that it is rather overlooked than rare here. In favorable places I have had little trouble finding it—on Muldraugh's Hill, at Arbuthnot, Hill's Mill, Moonshine Cliff, Hardin Springs, in Dismal Hollow. More frequent

than either *Asplenium pinnatifidum* or *A. trichomanes*. On limestone cliffs and boulders and wet moss-covered limestone rocks in unexposed places and deep retreats. Infrequently on sandstone. Somehow it always reminds me of the primeval.

CYSTOPTERIS BULBIFERA (L.) Bernh. Berry (or bulb-let) bladderfern. I have this fine and particularly graceful fern associated with waterfalls and rainbow sprays. Sentimentally, it is fit for romance. Usually draped and festooned on wet, slippery limestone cliffs where water splashes or trickles down, but may be found, less luxuriant, elsewhere. In the "Beech Woods" is a considerable station growing in stony soil on a second bank of Rough River with 24 to 40-inch fertile fronds.

CYSTOPTERIS FRAGILIS (L.) Bernh. Brittle fern. Common on moist ledges and in fissures and stony ground, usually near water. Shade to half shade.

DRYOPTERIS INTERMEDIA (Muhl.) Gray. Common woodfern. I have more frequently found this fern in narrow, close places between rocks and boulders and up the sides and at the foot of sandstone cliffs, especially along streams and in wet dense ravines. Its cutting varies, sometimes the pinnules on the lower side of the base pinnae being two or three times as long as those on the upper side. Some specimens I mistook for *D. campyloptera* until set right by Dr. Benedict.

DRYOPTERIS HEXAGONOPTERA (Michx.) C. Chr. Winged (or broad) beechfern. Common and varying through many forms. In rich moist to dry woods, especially on wooded slopes. Fronds 6 to 30 inches. Usually plentiful where found.

DRYOPTERIS MARGINALIS (L.) Gray. Leather Woodfern (the old marginal shield). On shaded cliffs (usually sandstone), at base and clinging high up the sides, sometimes the rootstock protruding far out of crevices and

pockets; at other times sitting snug on the top of a mossy rock, or in stony ground.

DRYOPTERIS THELYPTERIS (L.) Gray. Marsh fern. In wet acid soil of deep woods and shaded bogs. The finest I have found were near Bethlehem Academy.

ONOCLEA SENSIBILIS L. Sensitive fern. Common in lowlands and lightly wooded bottoms.

OSMUNDA CINNAMOMEA L. Cinnamon fern. Not common, but may be found in likely places. In silicious soils, at times with clayey base and rather hard and compact. Sometimes in wet places in company with *O. regalis*, or in drier habitat with *O. claytoniana*. While reported to grow in sun, I have not happened to so find it.

OSMUNDA CLAYTONIANA L. Interrupted fern. In flat or rolling woods and slightly up the slopes of wooded draws, preferring a drier place than *O. regalis*. I have not found it fruiting in the woods, and frequently there it produces only a few fronds, but some plants brought in and set in the garden with no other shade than an ordinary grape arbor were soon producing fine crowns of fronds with frequent fertile pinnae.

OSMUNDA REGALIS var. *SPECTABILIS* (Willd.) Gray. Royal fern. Silicious soils, preferring open shade, but sometimes in sun with wet footing. Usually in sparse colonies in moist draws and wet swampy shade.

PELLAEA ATROPURPUREA (L.) Link. Purple cliffbrake. Often in scant dry, clayey soil wedged in tight limestone crevices. Seems to enjoy a goodly amount of direct rays of sun and usually found on face of cliff in thin shade. In the western part of the county, I found several plants on a large rock protruding from a hillside in the middle of an old field with no shade but a few persimmon saplings.

POLYPODIUM VIRGINIANUM L. Common polypody. Not common here. Found on sandstone cliffs along Rough

River, more abundant on drier ones, in moss and spare leafmold, forming mats that hang over the margins of high ledges.

POLYPODIUM POLYPODIOIDES (L.) Watt. Resurrection fern. A large boulder near the Raven's Nest on Rough River is well blanketed with this fern, interspersed with *P. virginianum*. I have not found it on trees as further south, and know of no other station in the county than the one mentioned, although there are probably others.

PTERIDIUM LATIUSCULUM (Desv.) Hieron. Eastern bracken. Common; along edges of woods and woodland roads; pigmentation reddish where it grows in sun. Usually 2 to 4 feet, but one grew slightly more than 7 feet last year in the back yard, slender and viny, and clinging up through the dense shade and folds of a kudzu vine. I have heard this fern called locally "the palm fern," but while it has a number of common names I have not heard of its being so called elsewhere (but have somewhere seen *Pteretis nodulosa* referred to as the Palm of the North).

WOODSIA OBTUSA (Spreng.) Torr. Obtuse (or common) woodsia. Frequent; on stony wooded bluffs and in rather open woods and thickets, usually of silicious soils.

WOODWARDIA AREOLATA (L.) Moore. Narrowleaf chain-fern. In wet, sour soil in deep woods and seepy drains. Found near Moonshine Cliff and New Summit.

ELIZABETHTOWN, KENTUCKY



BROWN-PUSEY HOUSE

ELIZABETHTOWN
KENTUCKY

*FOR COMMUNITY
USE*

128 NORTH MAIN STREET
One Block from Public Square

BROWN-PUSEY HOUSE

The purpose of the Brown-Pusey House is expressed in the tablet at the front door:

*BROWN-PUSEY HOUSE
FOR COMMUNITY USE
WELCOME*

This is the spirit in which the House is open to all—men, women and children. The House is for the benefit of the community. It is at the service of the community for all purposes for which such an institution is adapted. It is open on all weekdays with the Secretary in attendance. In the years of its existence we hope, and believe, that it has been a factor for the comfort, the pleasure and the advancement of the community which it tries to serve.

The building erected about 1825 was for many years the Hill House, an inn conducted by "Aunt Beck" Hill. It was restored as a Community House in 1923 by Dr. William Allen Pusey and Dr. Brown Pusey and other members of the Pusey-Brown family. It is said to be an excellent example of Georgian Colonial architecture.

One enters in a central hall from which there are three doors leading to various parts of the building. The first is to the library in which there are 5,000 volumes for public use, the second to the reception room which with comfortable chairs and many magazines offers a place for reading and rest; the third is the main entrance to the assembly room over which there is the quotation from Oliver Wendell Holmes:

“There is no time like the old time when you
and I were young

* * * * *

There is no place like the old place where you
and I were born.”

The assembly room, which will accommodate parties of 200 or more, is used as a meeting place by organizations such as the Woman's Club, the Business Men's Club, the Medical Society and the Historical Society. It is used for church affairs, private parties and for all sorts of desirable meetings and entertainments; there is no enumerating all of the purposes for which the assembly room is used.

On the first floor there is also a well equipped kitchen, an attractive dining-room, a rest room and a storeroom. The second floor is a private apartment furnishing a substantial source of revenue for the upkeep of the place.

The assembly room is walled on two sides by

French windows through which is a full view of the Garden, one of the attractive features of the place. The Garden is the particular care of Mrs. William Allen Pusey, and is called the Cunningham Garden in honor of her parents. It offers an attractive prospect with its smooth trim lawn, surrounded by deciduous shrubs interspersed with evergreens and its wide borders of flowers so planted as to be gay with blooms throughout the growing season.

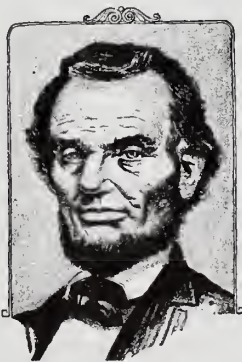
The support of the place for the most part comes from subscriptions from the community. The great reason for the success of the House, of course, is the sympathetic support which the community has given it. Hardly less important is the fact that it is open daily.

If you have visited The Brown-Pusey House once or often it has pleased the trustees to have you as a guest; if you have not, let us repeat that you are welcome.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

Begin the
Lincoln Tour
in

ELIZABETHTOWN, KY.



"My earliest recollection"
is of Hardin County
A. Lincoln

MILL CONSTRUCTED BY THOMAS LINCOLN IN 1797

The site of the mill and mill race which Thomas Lincoln constructed before his marriage to Nancy Hanks is to be found just off of South 31-W on Race Street and on the waters of Valley Creek, in Elizabethtown.

THOMAS LINCOLN'S MILL CREEK FARM

In 1803, Thomas Lincoln purchased a farm about 12 miles Northwest of Elizabethtown to provide his Mother, Bersheba Lincoln, with a home. He lived here with his Mother, his sister, Nancy Lincoln Brumfield, and her husband, William Brumfield until his marriage in 1806. To see this farm, take Miles Street to the Battle Training Road and turn left.

MARRIAGE OF

THOMAS LINCOLN TO SARAH BUSH JOHNSTON

The site of the Patton home in which Thomas Lincoln was married to the beloved Foster Mother of Abraham Lincoln is located on Main Street just one block North of the Courthouse, Elizabethtown.

LINCOLN MEMORIAL CEMETERY

In this cemetery are interned the Grandmother, Bersheba Lincoln, of Abraham Lincoln and his Aunt and Uncle, Nancy Lincoln Brumfield and William Brumfield. His cousin, Mary Brumfield Crume, is also buried here. Located 12 miles North of Elizabethtown (US 31-W) on the Fort Knox Reservation.

THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN BIRTHPLACE—HODGENVILLE

The Lincoln National Historical Park is located approximately 10 miles from Elizabethtown at Hodgenville, Kentucky. Take 31-W South from Elizabethtown and turn left at Highway 61.

THE KNOB CREEK HOME OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

For five years Abraham Lincoln lived at Knob Creek—The traditional cabin is located approximately 15 miles from Elizabethtown—take Highway 31-E out of Hodgenville.

THOMAS LINCOLN, JR. CEMETERY—WHITE CITY

The younger brother of Abraham Lincoln is buried at White City, Kentucky about 15 miles from Elizabethtown. Take Highway 31-E out of Hodgenville.

LINCOLN HOMESTEAD STATE PARK—SPRINGFIELD

The homes of both Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks before their marriage are located near Springfield, Kentucky about 40 miles from Elizabethtown. Take 62 to Bardstown and 150 to Lincoln Homestead State Park.

THE LINCOLN MARRIAGE TEMPLE—HARRODSBURG

Here is located the cabin in which Abraham Lincoln's parents were married. Take Highway 62 to Bardstown, Highway 150 to Springfield, and Highway 152 to Harrodsburg.



LINCOLN CONNECTIONS IN ELIZABETHTOWN

President Abraham Lincoln was born in Hardin County, Kentucky, February 12, 1809. At that time, Elizabethtown was the County seat of Hardin County.

Thomas Lincoln, Father of the President, owned and paid taxes on two lots within the city limits of Elizabethtown. He worked as a laborer, carpenter and cabinet maker while living in Elizabethtown.

Immediately after their marriage on June 12, 1806, Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks made their first home in Elizabethtown.

Sarah Lincoln, an older sister of Abraham Lincoln, was born in Elizabethtown, February 10, 1807

Abraham Lincoln in the year 1816 passed through Elizabethtown on the way to Indiana.

Sarah Bush Johnston, the Foster Mother of Abraham Lincoln, was a native of Elizabethtown.

Emilie Todd, a sister of Mary Todd Lincoln, married Ben Hardin Helm and lived in Elizabethtown during the Civil War.

ELIZABETHTOWN'S OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

GENERAL CUSTER'S HEADQUARTERS

General George Armstrong Custer made his military headquarters in Elizabethtown from 1871-1873. He occupied the small brick building at 128 North Main St. adjacent to the Brown-Pusey House.

THE BROWN-PUSEY HOUSE

An ante-bellum house built in 1825 and said to be an excellent example of Georgian Colonial architecture. Originally an old inn, it was restored as a Community House in 1923 by Drs. W. A. and Brown Pusey. Jenny Lind sang here April 5, 1851.

CIVIL WAR CANNON BALL

Imbedded in the wall of a building on the North side of the Public Square is a cannon ball which was shot from the City Cemetery during General Morgan's raid in the Civil War.

FIRST CHURCH WEST OF THE ALLEGHENY MOUNTAINS

The site of the Severns Valley Baptist Church, first church West of the Allegheny Mountains, founded in 1781, is at 220 North Main Street. The present building is at Morningside and Poplar Streets.

HOME OF GOVERNOR JOHN L. HELM

The colonial mansion of John L. Helm, twice Governor of Kentucky, is located one mile North of Elizabethtown on US 31-W. Governor Helm was inaugurated here September 3, 1867 due to illness. He is buried in a family plot nearby.

GENERAL BEN HARDIN HELM

A great Confederate General, Ben Hardin Helm, is buried in the family cemetery on the Helm Place, one mile North of Elizabethtown. General Helm fell at Chickamauga in 1863.

PRESIDENT JAMES BUCHANAN — 15th President of U. S.
Resided in Elizabethtown in the year 1813.

JOHN JAMES AUDUBON—world famous ornithologist
Resided in Elizabethtown between 1805 and 1821.

Compiled by

W. Burton Cowley, Chairman of the Surrounding Attractions-Committee
Elizabethtown-Hardin County Chamber of Commerce

THOMAS LINCOLN'S ELIZABETHTOWN CABIN

Editor's Note: This article might be described as a postscript to a more lengthy and detailed discussion entitled "The Elizabethtown Lincoln Cabin Site" which appeared in A Series of Monographs Concerning The Lincolns and Hardin County, Kentucky. The Enterprise Press, Elizabethtown, Kentucky, 1938.

When Abraham Lincoln was nominated for the presidency on the Republican ticket in 1860, a few of the older residents of Hardin County, Kentucky, could recall that the Lincoln family once lived in that community at an early date.

Some of the early biographers even insisted that Lincoln was born in Elizabethtown, which was the county seat of Hardin, County, and they published a picture of a cabin which they claimed to be the one in which the Railsplitter first saw the light of day.

To get the matter straight, Samuel Haycraft wrote the presidential nominee in May, 1860, inquiring about his parentage and place of birth. Haycraft, who was born on August 14, 1795, in Elizabethtown, had once been acquainted with the candidate's father who migrated with his family to Indiana in the late fall of 1816.

Lincoln knew Haycraft by reputation as he had served as clerk of both the county and circuit courts from 1816 to 1857, and he had also been elected to the State Senate. He immediately replied to the court clerk, and in his letter dated May 28 he wrote: "I do not think I ever saw you, though I very well know who you are—so well that I recognized your handwriting, on opening your letter, before I saw the signature."

In answering Haycraft's inquiries Lincoln wrote: "In the main you are right about my history. My father was Thomas Lincoln, and Mrs. Sally Johnston, was his second wife. You are mistaken about my mother—her maiden name was Nancy Hanks. I was not born at Elizabethtown; but my mother's first child, a daughter, two years older than myself, and now long since deceased, was. I was born Feb. 12, 1809, near where Hogginsville (Hodgenville) now is, then in Hardin County."

Unfortunately, Haycraft's first letter to Lincoln (he wrote several times), is not extant, but it has generally been assumed that Haycraft believed that Sarah Bush Johnston was Lincoln's mother. Then, too, Haycraft apparently thought that Abraham was Thomas Lincoln's first child instead of Sarah, who was born at the county seat town on February 10, 1807.

However, some authorities do not believe that Haycraft's "mistake" was in reference to Sally Bush Johnston as Lincoln's mother. Such a line of reasoning is best expressed in an editor's note following Lincoln's, May 28, 1860 letter in *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, Vol. IV, 1953, page 57: "... the assumption is hardly tenable since Haycraft knew about Thomas Lincoln's early residence at Elizabethtown and could scarcely have identified her (Sarah Bush Johnston) as the mother of Thomas Lincoln's first child, whom he supposed to have been Abraham instead of Sarah. Probably Haycraft did not know Nancy Hanks at all and in common with others among his Kentucky contemporaries, who began cudgeling their brains after Lincoln's nomination, confused her, as well as her mother with another notorious 'Nancy' whose reputation has survived the years because of its unsavory quality."

It is also pertinent to mention that Haycraft's later testimony to William Herndon about Nancy Hank's identity seems not to have been clear.

In a second letter to Haycraft, dated June 4, 1860, Lincoln wrote: "The place on Knob Creek, mentioned by Mr. (W. B.) Read, I remember very well; but I was not born there. As my parents have told me, I was born on Nolin, very much nearer Hodgins's Mill than the Knob Creek place is. My earliest recollection, however, is of the Knob Creek place."

Accepting Lincoln's statements as final, Haycraft wrote him on August 19, that: "It was generally understood that you were born in this Town (Elizabeth Town) and as there was some difference of opinion about the place and also about your parentage . . . I took the liberty of writing to you on the subject. . . . No long since a relation of mine from New York visited this place & aided by some old citizens hunted up the remains of the Old Cabin in which your father resided, and he had

8 feet of a log sawed out & took it to New York. The old house has been removed several times, was once a human residence . . . a slaughter house & was a Stable, excuse me for going into little particulars. I thought you would not be displeased to hear of them."

Undoubtedly, following the receipt of the letter of June 4, Haycraft having Lincoln's autobiographical statements in mind, and perhaps aided by some "old citizens" was able to positively identify or have identified the Elizabethtown cabin home of Thomas Lincoln.

In 1869, Haycraft published *A History of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, And Its Surroundings* and he referred to "the old cabin that the father of President Lincoln lived in" as one of two log houses of ancient date then standing. However, he failed to mention in his history that an eight foot log had been taken to New York and that "the old house" had been removed several times." Neither did he mention his correspondence with Lincoln and, in fact, recorded some erroneous statements about Sally Bush Lincoln always bringing little Abe to the store of Helm and Green "to carry her bundles home."

Later biographers were more or less successful in discounting the importance of the Elizabethtown cabin, all the while pointing out that the so-called birthplace cabin was none other than the one occupied by Sarah Bush Johnston, who married Thomas Lincoln in 1819.

It has also been fairly well established that the Elizabethtown cabin was first constructed on a lot on the corner of Poplar Street and an unnamed alley, designated as Lot G on a map of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, drawn by Dr. Louis A. Warren. This property was originally owned by Samuel Haycraft, Sr., the father of the court clerk.

With Lincoln's nomination and election in 1860 the cabin gained considerable local fame but at that time it was situated on Race Street (Site B), near the raceway and mill (Site C) on Valley Creek which Thomas Lincoln helped to construct in 1797.

A persistent tradition is still current in Elizabethtown that the old cabin was roughly treated after its removal to Race Street, becoming as Haycraft said, "a slaughter house & . . . Stable."

There are still many perplexing problems as to the identification of the cabin and the site; for example, the tax lists indicate that Lincoln lots were located on land originally owned by Andrew Hynes.

Yet, in the light of Haycraft's statements to Lincoln (Aug. 19, 1860) regarding the Elizabethtown cabin there is a possibility that Sarah Bush Johnston may have resided in the original Lincoln cabin before its removal to a new location, which if true, makes that ancient abode doubly significant.

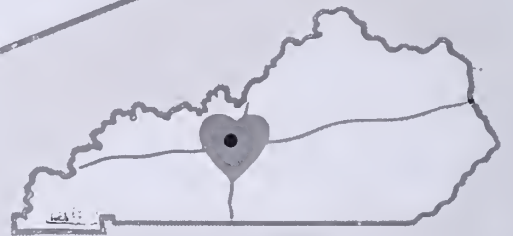
McMURTRY'S SPEAKING ITINERARY

Louisville, Ky., Jan. 7, 8, 1957.
Cincinnati, Ohio, Jan. 9, 10.
Charleston, West Va., Jan. 11.
Canton, Ohio, Jan. 14, 15.
Akron, Ohio, Jan. 16, 17.
Johnstown, Pa., Jan. 18.
Pittsburgh, Pa., Jan. 21, 22.
Erie, Pa., Jan. 23.
Cleveland, Ohio, Jan. 24, 25.
Norfolk, Va., Feb. 4, 5.
Richmond, Va., Feb. 6, 7.
Martinsburg, West Va., Feb. 8.
Washington, D. C., Feb. 11, 12.
Baltimore, Md., Feb. 13, 14, 15.
Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 18.
Philadelphia, N. J., Feb. 21, 22.
Hartford, Conn., Feb. 25, 26.
Providence, R. I., Feb. 27.
Boston, Mass., Feb. 28, March 1.

The persons who might be interested in learning of the schedule in detail in the various cities named above, may contact the local offices of the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company.

Elizabethtown

IN THE HEART
of KENTUCKY



AT THE CROSSROADS
OF U.S. 31 W-N & S
AND U.S. 62 E & W

&

THE KENTUCKY TURNPIKE

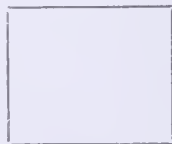
WHERE GOOD BUSINESS
AND
GOOD LIVING MEET

Greetings

From

To

CHAMBER of COMMERCE
ELIZABETHTOWN
K.Y.
WHERE GOOD BUSINESS
AND GOOD LIVING MEET





DOWN TOWN PARKING LOTS

Elizabethtown is one of the best equipped cities in the state for parking facilities. To date they have four metered lots which contains a total of 550 meters and a free lot that can accommodate 150 cars.

Elizabethtown is a 4th class city governed by a mayor (4 yr. term) and 6 councilmen (2 yr. terms). Boasts a police department of 16 patrolmen and equipment of 2 cruisers and 1 motor cycle. The fire department has 20 volunteers, equipment — 4 trucks and one emergency vehicle. Civil Defense has a well trained organization consisting of approximately 100 men.

New houses can be built or purchased in various price categories through the First Federal Savings and Loan and F.H.A.

The average assessment being 35% — city tax — .75, county — .65 and school \$2.00.



HOME OF GOV. JOHN L. HELM

Elizabethtown was the home of Governor John L. Helm, who served as governor of the state from 1850 to 1851. Death terminated his second term of office September 8, 1867. His former home (above) is a beautiful structure housing pictures of Governor Helm and his son, Brig. Gen. Ben Hardin Helm, Confederate States Army. (General Helm, brother-in-law of Abraham Lincoln, was killed leading the "Orphan Brigade" at Chickamauga in 1863).



BROWN-PUSEY HOUSE

The famous Brown-Pusey Community House (above) was originally known as the Hill House and was one of the old inns of stage coach days. It was the home of General George A. Custer who resided here with his wife during the years 1871 to 1873. A beautiful garden graces the rear of the house. Currently it is used as a public library, and contains approximately 8,000 volumes given by Mr. Brown Pusey and Dr. William A. Pusey (former President of the American Medical Association).

The Hardin County Bookmobile, operated with state aid, circulates approximately 6000 books each month to the people of Hardin County. A regional library is in the process of being obtained.

#748-CAPTURED AND BURNED

On second Kentucky raid CSA Gen. J. H. Morgan's cavalry came from Glasgow to Hammonville, Dec. 25, 1862. Next day sent some to Bacon Creek and others to Nolin to take stockades and burn trestles, both places. At Nolin, two miles west, 76 Union men taken prisoners and paroled. Stockades and trestles burned both places. Railroad out of use for critical time. See map.

Location: 9 miles South of Elizabethtown,
Jct. US 31-W and Ky 407.

#858-ROUTE OF LINCOLNS

In the autumn of 1816, Abraham Lincoln's family traveled this old pioneer trail through Vine Grove, established in 1802, when migrating from Knob ~~Hill~~ farm, Larue County, Kentucky, to Spencer County, Indiana

Creek

Location: Main Street, Vine Grove, Hardin County

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
REQUEST FOR DELIVERY
ON CONTRACT

DEPARTMENT Kentucky Historical Society
Division or Institution
Ship to: Kentucky Department of Highways
..... District Engineer, US 31W South
..... Elizabethtown, Kentucky
Vendor: []

Request No. 103
Date June 27, 1963
Contract No. CT-2014
Account No. 60-1-01-010-601
Name of Allotment
or Revolving Account

Deliver on or
Before per specifications

Sewah Studios
Marietta, Ohio

Please deliver the articles listed below in accordance with the contract indicated above.

Quantity	Unit	DESCRIPTION
1		<p>Historical Highway Marker per specifications</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GENERAL CUSTER HERE Cavalry and infantry battalions under Gen. George Custer assigned here, 1871 to 1873, to suppress Ku Klux Klan and carpet baggers, to break up illicit distilleries. Those gangs becoming inactive, he was sent to Chicago to maintain order after big fire. Returning, he led an active social life. In 1873 ordered to Dakota, ending in "Custer's Last Stand", July, 1876.</p> <p>Copy alike both sides</p> <p>Location: Elizabethtown</p> <p>Signature line Kentucky Historical Society Kentucky Department of Highways Marker code no. 606</p>

INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS:

1. Submit invoices on Standard State Invoice Form in accordance with the instructions contained thereon.

Signed

2. Send all invoices directly to:

DIVISION OF ACCOUNTS
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE,
NEW CAPITOL ANNEX BUILDING
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY

Title... Administrative Asst.

Department must send original copy of this request to vendor. Retain duplicate for your file.

Page from "News & Views" July 30, 1965

ately 30 X 60, a hand elevator raised a barrel of Coca Cola syrup upstairs, where the syrup was gravity fed to the bottler which consisted of a space for two bottles, one bottle would receive the syrup and carbonated water while the second bottle was capped, this machine was hand fed, place an empty in one side and take out a full from the other, I have forgotten the daily capacity of the plant, but I do remember that it required many many hours to bottle enough cases to fill the old Mac chain drive solid tire truck for a delivery to Fort Knox, business continued to increase, Luke continued to install more modern bottling equipment, the same cycle continued (however during the latter part of this period Luke acquired a dog, mother a sooner, father from a pack, Red, big feet and long tail but Red's intelligence should not be judged by his appearance what he lacked in apperance he made up in brains he was as smart as h---, he was a constant companion on foot or car, he understood Lukes words and actions, it was difficult to tell whose affection was the greater, both came in the worshipping class, Red must had glue in his anatomy as his one position on the Dodge Roster was in the fender curve next to the hood taking curves had no effect on his balance as he adjusted to the turn, anyone asking where is Luke? He and Red went so and so. Luke's temperment toward his fellow man was the same as toward Red, he liked everyone, always jolly and a liberal supporter of progress, for many years he sponsored the Coca Cola baseball team, supplying uniforms and all, the Coca Cola team won the Ky. (championship in 1924). Pardon the reminisence above, but no old timer can think of the beginning of Coca Cola in Elizabethtown without paying tribute to Luke Schmidt.

When the business demanded larger and more modern quarters a large new modern building was erected on South Main, after continued progress and at Luke's death, his wife Irencce managed the business until Bill graduated and served his army hitch, then Bill took over the management, as improvements were made in machinery, Bill installed these improvements, now with the present business constantly growing and outgrowing his present plant he has purchased a 9 acre tract at the edge of town where he is constructed a new 73,000 sq. ft. warehouse and in 1966 will add 62,000 sq. ft. where his investment for building and equipment will be approximately \$850,000 his plant has 42 vehicles, 5 being large transports which he uses to deliver Coca Cola in cans in 6 states and 50 other Coca Cola bottlers, his annual payrollnears one half million and consists of 82 employees.

We salute you Bill on the outstanding progress of your Company and appreciate the economic value your Company has and is making to our Community and your personal support for all other projects which are for the betterment of all residents of Elizabethtown and Hardin County.

✓
GENERAL CUSTER PLAQUE

Don't get excited on Creasons story on the plaque, as a site does not mean on an exact spot, it means in the immediate area, even if brick houses were back of the Brown Pusey House they are not there now and no one would even see a plaque back in the garden even if it was mounted on a post at the exact spot, so we will contend that it is a historical fact ~~that~~ General Custer had his headquarters on this site.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS FOR OUR ANNUAL MEETING NOW.

Thank you.

Tip



Lincoln Lore

Bulletin of The Lincoln National Life Foundation . . . Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry, Editor
Published each month by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Number 1530

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

August, 1965

Lincoln – Haycraft Correspondence

Editor's Note: Samuel Haycraft's letters to Lincoln were first published in 1963 in pamphlet form by the Elizabethtown, Kentucky, Woman's Club under the title "Haycraft's History of Elizabethtown, Kentucky" by R. Gerald McMurtry. The 12 page pamphlet sells at \$1.00 per copy. For additional information on Samuel Haycraft, Jr., see *Lincoln Lore* No. 1428 "Judge Lynch," February, 1957 and No. 1456 "Lincoln—Haycraft Correspondence—A Study in Handwriting" (page 3), June, 1959.

As a Presidential candidate and later as a President-elect, Abraham Lincoln had occasion to write five letters of a biographical and political nature to Samuel Haycraft, Jr., of Elizabethtown, Kentucky. These letters are extant and have been published in "The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln," Vol. IV, 1860-1861, pages 56, 59, 97, 99 and 115.

Haycraft was a son of one of the three pioneer settlers of Elizabethtown, and he was born when the town was still an early pioneer settlement. He served as county and circuit court clerk from 1816 to 1857. His handwriting had appeared on so many legal papers that on May 28, 1860, Presidential Candidate Abraham Lincoln wrote Haycraft that "I do not think I ever saw you, though I very well know who you are—so well that I recognized your handwriting, on opening your letter, before I saw the signature." Lincoln continued, "My recollection is that Ben Helm was first clerk, that you succeeded him, that Jack Thomas and William Farleigh graduated in the same office, and that your handwritings were all very similar. Am I right?" Lincoln had probably seen many of the legal papers of his father's Hardin County transactions.

In 1869 Haycraft wrote "A History of Elizabethtown, Kentucky And Its Surroundings" and no community's history has been so quaintly, but at the same time so amply, written. This volume gives intimate glimpses into the lives of the Lincolns, the Buchanans, the Audubons, the Helms, the Greens, the Duvalls, the Edwards, the Hodgenses, the Bushs, the La Rues, the Van Meters and the Wintersmiths—most of whom played prominent roles as contemporaries of Thomas Lincoln or the Sixteenth President. It is, of course, regretful that Haycraft did not pinpoint the location of the Thomas Lincoln cabin in his history as to lot number, street and precise location, that all might visit

the site of that important Elizabethtown Lincoln home.

Lincoln and Haycraft differed politically in the Presidential contest of 1860; yet, their correspondence reveals considerable restraint on the part of both men to tread softly over sectional issues. While Lincoln had a much better grasp of the national political situation following his election than his obscure local correspondent, Haycraft nevertheless displayed an attitude of conciliation which was typical of most Kentuckians in November 1860.

The five letters written by Lincoln and the four by Haycraft are here published together in *Lincoln Lore* for the first time. Apparently, Haycraft wrote Lincoln six letters, the first two of which are not extant. In Lincoln's May 28, 1860 letter to Haycraft he mentioned "your recent letter, without date," and in his June 4, 1860 letter, Lincoln acknowledged "your second letter dated May 31st." The earliest letter from Haycraft, that is extant, is dated August 19, 1860. Other Haycraft letters addressed to Lincoln are dated October 26, 1860; November 9, 1860; and November 13, 1860. The four original letters extant constitute a part of the Abraham Lincoln papers in the Library of Congress. They have the following (microfilm) catalogue numbers:

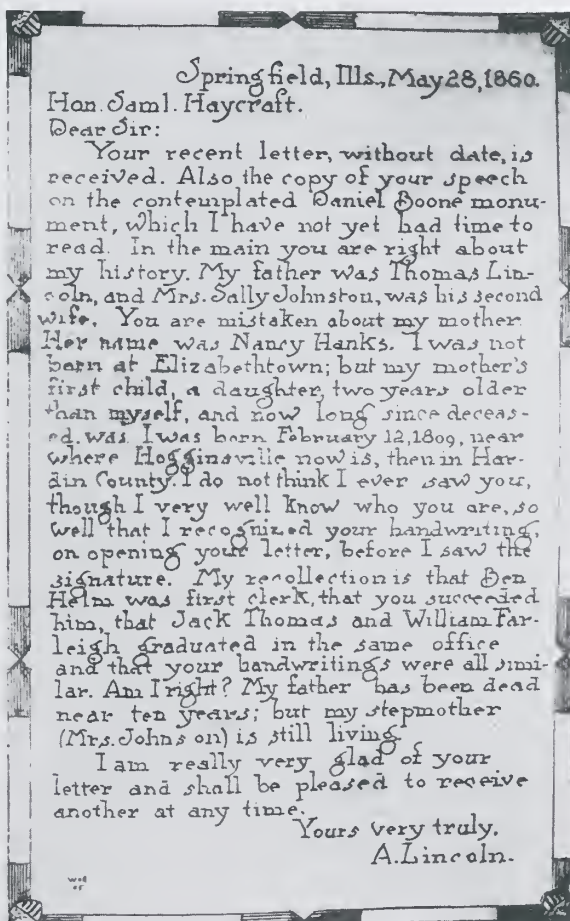
August 19, 1860—No. 3567
October 26, 1860—No. 4148
November 9, 1860—No. 4391
(with envelope)
November 13, 1860—No. 4477
(with envelope)

As Haycraft was an uncommonly poor scribe, it has been difficult to decipher parts of his scrawl. Such words as have defied translation are indicated by three periods enclosed in parentheses. Fortunately, this has occurred in only a few sentences.

Springfield, Ills.
May 28, 1860

Hon. Saml. Haycraft
Dear Sir:

Your recent letter, without date, is received. Also the copy of your speech on the contemplated Daniel Boone Monument, which I have not yet had time to read. In the main you are right about my history. My father was Thomas Lincoln, and Mrs. Sally Johnston, was his second wife. You are mistaken about my mother—her maiden name was Nancy Hanks. I was



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

Etching by Bernhardt Wall

not born at Elizabethtown; but my mother's first child, a daughter, two years older than myself, and now long since deceased, was. I was born Feb. 12, 1809, near where Hogginsville [Hodgenville] now is, then in Hardin county. I do not think I ever saw you, though I very well know who you are—so well that I recognized your hand-writing, on opening your letter, before I saw the signature. My recollection is that Ben. Helm was first Clerk, that you succeeded him, that Jack Thomas and William Farleigh graduated in the same office, and that your handwritings were all very similar. Am I right?

My father has been dead near ten years; but my step-mother, (Mrs. Johnson) is still living.

I am really glad of your letter, and shall be pleased to receive another at any time. Yours very truly
A. Lincoln

PRIVATE

Hon. Saml. Haycraft. Springfield, Ills. June 4, 1860

Dear Sir: Your second letter, dated May 31st. is received. You suggest that a visit to the place of my nativity might be pleasant to me. Indeed it would. But would it be safe? Would not the people lynch me?

The place on Knob Creek, mentioned by Mr. Read, I remember very well; but I was not born there. As my parents have told me, I was born on Nolin, very much nearer Hodgins-Mill than the Knob Creek place is. My earliest recollection, however, is of the Knob Creek place.

Like yourself I belonged to the whig party from it's origin to its close. I never belonged to the American party organization; nor ever to a party called a Union party; though I hope I neither am, or ever have been, less devoted to the Union than yourself, or any other patriotic man.

It may not be altogether without interest to let you know that my wife is a daughter of the late Robert S. Todd, of Lexington, Ky.—and that a half sister of hers is the wife of Ben. Hardin Helm, born and raised at your town, but residing at Louisville now, as I believe.

Yours very truly
A. Lincoln

Hon. Saml. Haycraft Springfield, Ills. Aug. 16, 1860

My Dear Sir: A correspondent of the New-York Herald, who was here a week ago, writing to that paper, represents me as saying I had been invited to visit Kentucky, but that I suspected it was a trap to inveigle me into Kentucky, in order to do violence to me.

This is wholly a mistake. I said no such thing. I do not remember, but possibly I did mention my correspondence with you. But very certainly I was not guilty of stating, or insinuating, a suspicion of any intended violence, deception, or other wrong, against me, by you, or any other Kentuckian. Thinking this Herald correspondence might fall under your eye, I think it due to myself to enter my protest against the correctness of this part of it. I scarcely think the correspondent was malicious; but rather that he misunderstood what was said.

Yours very truly
A. Lincoln

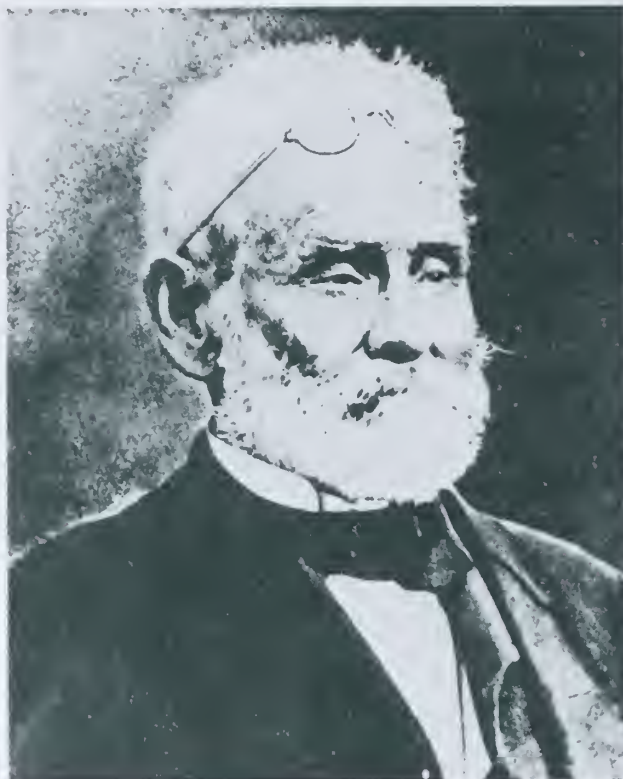
Elizabeth Town Ky.
August 19, 1860

Hon. Abraham Lincoln
My Dear Sir:

Your letter of 16 Inst was received by this days mail. And I hasten to reply. Not only to acquit you but to clear myself of any knowledge of that statement of some correspondent from the N. Y. Herald saying that you had been invited to visit Ky. but that you suspected it was a trap to inveigle you into Ky. in order to do violence to you.

I will tax your patience by adding to our correspondence. It was generally understood that you were born in this Town (Elizabeth Town) as there was some difference of opinion about this place & also about your parentage, that I took the liberty of writing to you on the subject, to which you frankly & promptly responded.

That letter called out another from me, in which I did not invite you to visit Kentucky, but in speaking of



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

Samuel Haycraft, Jr., 1795-1878

this place of your birth & of your recollections of this old Home Stead, I made a passing suggestion that it might be pleasant for you now in the turn of life to visit the scenes of your nativity. To which in your letter marked *Private* dated June 4th you in this playful language "You suggest that a visit to the place of my nativity would be pleasant to me—Indeed it would—But would it be safe? Would not the people lynch me? The place on Knob Creek mentioned by Mr. Read I remember very well, but I was not born there."

"As my parents have told me, I was born on Nolin very much nearer Hodgins-Mill than the Knob Creek place is. My earliest recollection is of the Knob Creek place."

The remark about the lynching. No man of sense would have understood it in any other way than a (. . .) playfulness and pleasantry on your part. I at least so understood it, and was about to reply to it in the same humor, that a visit here would subject you to a good many attacks—But they would (. . .) for office under you, as it was regarded as a foregone conclusion that you would be the next President unless the split in the Democratic party lets in Bell. The mark *Private* on your letter I supposed simply meant that it was not for publication. Had it been marked Confidential nobody would have seen it. But as it was I showed it to Mr. W. B. Read who was attending our Court and one or two other acquaintances and spoke of it to others who like myself had a curiosity about your birthplace. The reason why I did not reply was through a little delicacy, least my object might be misconstrued.

I suppose you have noticed the votes of the Clerk of the Court of Appeals in which the Bell Candidate beat the Breckenridge man upward of 25,000 votes. That Breckenridge is in a minority in Ky. I have no kind of doubt, but I do not deem the late election a fair test as a great many Douglas men voted for Country. But I have no doubt that if the parties stand as they now are in Nov. next that Bell & Everett will carry the state of Ky. by a considerable plurality of votes.

An old neighbor and friend of mine Sam'l Young, told me to say to you if I wrote to you again that he would vote for you. His sister married a Hanks, and he married a sister of my old Friend Charles Sawyer who lives near

Mattoon and who tho near 80 years of age headed a Lincoln torch light procession at that place not long since and carried a fence rail on his shoulder as did every other man in the procession. Not long since a relation of mine from New York visited this place and aided by some old Citizens hunted up the remains of the Old Cabin in which your father resided. He had 8 feet of a log sawed out and took it to New York. The old house had been removed several times, was once a human residence, another a Slaughter house, and now a Stable.—excuse me for going into these little particulars. I thought you would not be displeased to hear of them. I have seen in the illustrated papers a likeness of yourself. I was almost on the point of saying that if you had a correct photograph of yourself that I would like to see it.

I do not suppose that you intend to visit Ky. But if you do I would like to see you personally and would be sure that you would be pleasantly received. I wish it understood that this letter is private and not for publication, but if you desire a reply from me to the N. Y. Herald I will with pleasure prepare a statement.

Truly yours
Sam'l Haycraft

[Hon. Sam Haycraft
My dear S]

[Springfield, Ill.
Aug. 23, 1860]

Yours of the 19th is just received. I now fear I may have given you some uneasiness by my last letter. I did not mean to intimate that I had, to any extent, been involved, or embarrassed, by you; nor yet, to draw from you anything to relieve myself from difficulty. My only object was to assure you that I had not, as represented by the Herald correspondent, charged you with an attempt to inveigle me into Kentucky to do me violence. I believe no such thing of you, or of Kentuckians generally; and I dislike to be represented to them as slandering them in that way.

[Yours truly
A. Lincoln]

Elizabeth Town Ky.
Oct. 26, 1860

Hon. Abraham Lincoln,
My dear Sir,

Not long since I saw my old friend Dick Wintersmith who informed me that he in company with Ben Hardin Helm had lately paid you a visit and taken tea at your house. Dick was our late Treasurer and is a fellow of rare wit and humour and told me that he had expressed his fears to your lady that if it was known in the South that he had supped at your house that he would be hung. I told Dick that I had some fears myself that if you were elected that it would be the cause of my death—How so? says Dick. I replied that Lincoln would give an appointment (. . . .) Swampy County (. . .) the Indians and that the consequences would be fatal.

I have a great anxiety to know how a man feels in your present position a candidate for the highest office one of the gifts of a mighty nation and in less than two weeks of the time.

I have myself in days past had some anxiety about some petty office. But (. . .) in your case is a deep one.

In Kentucky, tho a slave state, we occupy a middle ground—and generally we are as much opposed to the fire eating disunion gang as we are to the ultra abolitionists of the North.

From later indications we look upon your election as a fixed fact, a foregone conclusion.—Bell will certainly carry Kentucky and Tennessee as I once before remarked to you.

Old Uncle Sammy Young requested me if I ever wrote to you again to be certain to send you his respects—he will vote for you if he lives—one of our townsmen Robert L. Wintersmith is the Lincoln Elector for this District and takes decided ground—and regrets that he is not an orator that he might canvas the state for you.

Mr. James L. Hill the son of one of the (. . .) Women in (. . .) sends you his respects. His mother's maiden name was Lucy Lincoln a daughter of Annanai Lincoln who she says was a brother of your father.

James L. Hill, or as we call him Whalan Hill, is an

industrious, enterprising cabinet maker with a tolerably fair education. I make these suggestions to you supposing that they might inform or answer you to a limited extent. But as no doubt your correspondents are now numerous I must apologize for this letter on light matters, as intruding upon your time. With the highest respects,

Your Obt. St.
Sam Haycraft

Elizabeth Town Hardin Co. Ky
November 9, 1860

Hon. A Lincoln,
Dear Sir,

Now that the Battle is ended and the smoke thereof is being blown away and that you are now beyond doubt President elect of these glorious United States, as I predicted six months ago, I feel inclined though an humble individual unknown to fame to address you a few lines for which I hope you will pardon me, a great weight of responsibility has now fallen on your shoulders, and the guidance of the Ship of State committed to your hand.

I pray God that you may be enabled manfully to bear up under that weight and skillfully to pilot the vessel through the breakers of the threatened storm, that you will in all the honesty of your heart do so I have an abiding confidence, and that our Southern fire eaters will find (if they give you time to show your hand) that you are a conservative chief of the Nation in a national point of view that is the President of the *United States* and not a sectional ruler. Altho Kentucky gave you but a small vote, you will find her clinging on to the union, and honestly aiding you in the very arduous duties that lie before you. It will no doubt require all your wisdom and skill to conduct the Ship of State through the breakers, and it should be the duty, and I hope will be the pleasure of all good and true men to stand by you in the Conflict. And I hope that all may be well and the unity of the States preserved. This Hot Spring of the South will no doubt try a while to kick up a dust but sober second thought calms them down into decent acquiescence to the choice of the Nation. I do not profess to have the wisdom or the ability to suggest a course of policy. But your prudence and that proper decent respect which you have during the Canvass shown to the dignity of the office to which the people have elevated you without your compromising the respect for the opinions of an enlightened Nation—Stumping the States and harranging the people for an office of the highest dignity—will lead you to a course (. . .) and conservative in your administration—is the ground work of my hope for the future. These remarks are timidly made and I hope you will not think me presumptuous or obtrusive in making them. If an outsider may be allowed the privilege, I would name one man in a small way deserving of your patronage, and I make the suggestion without his knowledge or (. . .). I mean our fellow citizen (of this Town) Mr. Robert L. Wintersmith who was one on your electoral ticket. He stood almost alone and advocated your claim. And I have heard but one sentiment among the people and that is that he ought to be remembered while favors are being dispensed. He has labored through adverse fortune with a large family and is poor, but as firm as the Rock of Gibraltar.

I expect you will be annoyed to decide with letters and all sorts of petitions and communications from your own supporters, and I can hardly expect any reply to this communication. Indeed it may be considered impertinent under all circumstances; but it is not so intended, and is made in the honesty of my heart. It is true that I would like to hear from you if your leisure permits.

Very Respectfully Yours,
Sam'l Haycraft

Private, and confidential

Hon. Samuel Haycraft Springfield, Ill. Nov. 13, 1860

My dear Sir: Yours of the 9th. is just received. I can only answer briefly. Rest fully assured that the good people of the South who will put themselves in the same temper and mood towards me which you do, will find no cause to complain of me.

While I can not, as yet, make any committal as to offices, I sincerely hope I may find it in my power to oblige the friends of Mr. Wintersmith. [Yours very truly,

A. Lincoln]

Elizabeth Town Ky
Nov. 13, 1860

(Private)
Hon. Abraham Lincoln,

Not withstanding my late communication excuse me for troubling you so soon again. My apology will be found in my great desire that you should be disabused before the South and in the Slave States and thereby afford you a smoother sea than the present ebullitions of the South seem to portend. I am satisfied that a very large majority of Kentuckians are (. . .) to your election from the fact that they believe firmly that your administration will be honest, just and conservative. If you read the Louisville Journal you will see a decided tendency in that way, and that paper gives tongue to a very large portion of our people. But to come to the point—It has been intimated to me (knowing that I had been in correspondence with you) that it might serve the public and be promotive of some good for you to pay a visit to Kentucky at this point, being the County of your nativity and make a public address—and it was suggested to me to draw up a call upon you to be signed by all our old citizens giving you a public invitation. But I answered that it would be proper for me first to address you privately on the subject and learn from you confidentially whether such a demonstration would be agreeable to you to meet your notion of propriety. My own opinion is that there would be no impropriety in it as the election is over, and you could have no private ends to answer, and coupled with the fact that before the election you maintained that (. . .) silence which became a candidate for so high a position. I want Ky to speak out in such decisive language of the importance of adhering to the union and Constitution as would leave no doubt about her position and give no hope to the South that she would in the slightest degree encourage the madmen of that Section to look to her for aid, comfort or help in their hairbrained attempt to dissolve the union. I conversed with Governor Helm today on this subject. He highly approves of the plans to get your answer by a visit or such a reply to an invitation as would have a tendency to allay the troubled elements. But as some of his friends about Frankfort and Louisville have spoken of him as likely to obtain some executive favors, in which he has had no (. . .) or expectations in that way will induce him as a modest and high toned gentleman to take no active hand in the arrangements. This I say confidentially—I am confident that a visit from you once arranged would bring a tremendous crowd who would meet you openhanded, and listen to you with pleasure. If you can answer personally please let me hear from you.

Yours truly
Saml Haycraft

"I hope I may find it in my power to oblige the friends of Mr. Wintersmith."

In Haycraft's letter of November 9, 1860, addressed to President-elect Lincoln, he suggested the name of Robert L. Wintersmith, Sr. of Elizabethtown, Kentucky as deserving of patronage. Lincoln replied to Haycraft on November 13, 1860 that "I sincerely hope I may find it in my power to oblige the friends of Mr. Wintersmith."

Apparently, Wintersmith wanted a federal appointment, and immediately after Lincoln's inauguration he went to Washington and called upon the President. Because of Wintersmith's work as a Republican elector, Lincoln appointed the Kentuckian to the office of Elizabethtown Postmaster. Wintersmith was a merchant, and he continued to operate his general store even after the presidential appointment.

Wintersmith's father was Horatio Gates Wintersmith, who came to Kentucky from Martinsburg, Virginia with Major James Crutcher in 1806. Horatio G. Wintersmith was married three times; Robert L. was born to his first wife, who was before her marriage Elizabeth Hodgen, a daughter of Robert Hodgen who was a neighbor of Thomas Lincoln in Larue County.

Wintersmith was the only Elizabethtown resident to cast his vote for Lincoln in the 1860 Presidential Campaign. His vote was one of 6 out of a total of 2,091 cast in Hardin County for the Republican candidate.

"It so happens that I was born in Hardin County, Ky.," G. W. McMurtry

Editor's Note: In connection with the Lincoln-Haycraft correspondence it has come to the editor's attention that other Hardin County Kentuckians took advantage of their prerogative to write to the President. This particular letter by G. W. McMurtry has a special appeal for the editor as he is undoubtedly a kinsman. Perhaps Lincoln was pleased with the McMurtry letter of June 20th because it must have vindicated his desire to patronize a member of his wife's family. Then, too, Mrs. Lincoln possibly insisted upon the appointment. The McMurtry letter is a part of the Abraham Lincoln papers in the Library of Congress. microfilm No. 10371, Reel No. 23.

L. M. Todd, a son of Dr. John Todd of Springfield, Illinois, was eager to secure the appointment of Custom House Drayman at San Francisco, California. As this was a federal position, President Abraham Lincoln was asked to make the appointment.

On May 31, 1861 Ira P. Rankin, the Collector of Customs at San Francisco, wrote the President that "I feel compelled to write to you in regard to the appointment of L. M. Todd as Custom House Drayman . . . A formal protest has been sent to me against it, signed by the county Committee and a large number of the Republicans of Solano County, where he resides, representing that he has been a most bitter and violent opponent of the Republican Party . . ."

Meanwhile, in a letter dated April 5, 1861, the President had written to Rankin as follows: "Lockwood M. Todd, above named, is a cousin of Mrs. L. and she and I will be much obliged if the collector can give him the place he seeks."

Perhaps the appointment of Todd was never made, because there is no record to that effect. Although Todd may have had violent opponents in the Republican Party, he did have at least one Kentucky friend then residing in Suisun City, California, who, even though he differed with Lincoln politically, wrote the President in his behalf.

Hon. A. Lincoln

Suisun City, June 20th 1861

Dear Sir:

I write to you in behalf of Mr. L. M. Todd not because I have any wish or partizan right to mix myself up with the miserable (Dog in the Manger) War that is being waged against him by certain parties in this County but because I believe him to be a good young man and think he is not being fairly dealt with. It so happens that I was born in Hardin County, Ky. some years after you were, and although differing with you in politics, I yet feel more than an ordinary interest in you personally. This sentiment was not lessened by the fact that Mrs. Lincoln's family were also of Kentucky.

I plead guilty to the charge of having a tenderness for Kentuckians. And under the circumstances have frequently conversed with Mr. Todd concerning you. And willingly bear testimony to the fact that he invariably spoke of yourself and family in the most kind and respectful terms. I think Mr. T. is a very well qualified man for the position to which he aspires. Do not think his appointment to that position would offend a single decent man in this state. And I sincerely hope he may get the place as he needs it. As to those men, who are making war upon him the less that is said about most of them the better. They are my neighbors and most of them my clients, but they are not the sort of men who should influence your action.

Yours very Respectfully
signed G. W. McMurtry

Refer'd to
Hon. J. Y. Brown Ky
Ira P. Rankin San Francisco

The earliest record of an L. M. Todd appointment is March 25, 1864, when he was made commissary of subsistence with the rank of Captain.

Highlights[®] for Children

803 Church Street
Honesdale, Pennsylvania 18431
Telephone (717) 253-1080

Editor in Chief
Garry Cleveland Myers, Ph.D.
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Associate Editor
Paul A. Witty, Ph.D.
Science Editor
Jack Myers, Ph.D.

June 1, 1970

Lincoln National Life Foundation
1301 South Harrison Street
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46801

Gentlemen:

We are enclosing a story about Abraham Lincoln,
ABRAHAM AND THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER.

We wonder if you would be so kind as to
have this checked for historical accuracy? If
there is a charge for this service, please let us
know how much.

Cordially yours,


GARRY C. MYERS, Editor-in-Chief
HIGHLIGHTS FOR CHILDREN

GCM/ts
Encls.

Kitty Miller
620 Washington St.
Allentown, Pa. 18102

Approx. 750 words

ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER

By

Kitty Miller

In 1815 when Abe Lincoln was six years old, he and his family lived in a log cabin on their Knob Creek farm in Kentucky. The cabin set alongside the road and one day a stranger on a black horse rode up and asked to talk to Tom Lincoln, Abe's father.

"I'm deputy sheriff of Hardin County," he told them, "and I've got ten summons to appear in court to serve to all you folks who live along here. It seems some people in Pennsylvania claim to own this land."

"But I bought this land four years ago," Tom Lincoln tried to explain. Later he told his family, "Next week I'll have to go to the courthouse in Elizabethtown on behalf of all the folks who got a summons. I've got to hire a lawyer to defend this suit."

"Pappy, can I go along?" young Abe asked.

Remembering his promise to take Abe to Elizaebethtown the next time he went there, Tom Lincoln nodded and then turned to Abe's cousin Dennis. "Denny, you come too," he said. "You and Abe ride the bay mare and I'll take the gelding."

It was a warm bright September morn when Tom Lincoln, Abe, and his sixteen year old cousin Dennis Hanks set out on horseback for Elizaebethtown. "Soon as we get there," Tom Lincoln told them, "we'll get the horses shod. I'll be over at the courthouse. Denny, you show young Abe the sights."

They reached Elizaebethtown about noon, walking the horses slow so that Abe could look around and see the town. After they left the horses at the blacksmith's shop, Denny began to show Abe the sights. "This is the tanner," he explained as they poked their heads into the sheds. They looked at the school, the church, the general store, the jail, and the courthouse. They made their way over to see the fanciest house in town -- Major Helm's big red brick.

As they approached the house, they heard music. "I never heard that kind of music before," Abe said. "What is it?"

"Hush," Denny whispered as they stopped to listen. "It's an organ and a singing voice."

"I never heard that tune before," Abe said, looking up at his cousin. "Did you, Denny?"

Denny shook his head. "Reckon we should go up to the door and ask?"

Abe stood back. "I'm feared."

"Don't be scared, Abe." They waited until the music stopped, then Denny motioned for Abe to come with him.

Abe stood still.

Denny walked up to the house and knocked on the door. "Excuse me, ma'm, but could you tell me the name of that tune we just heard? I never heard that one before."

"It's a new tune, young man," the woman said. "Just about one year old. They say it was written last year when the British attacked Fort McHenry in Baltimore Harbor. It's called The Star Spangled Banner."

Denny frowned. "The Star Spangled Banner?"

"It tells about the flag of the United States," the woman explained, "with its eighteen stars for eighteen states."

"Thank ye, ma'm," Denny said and went back and told Abe about the song.

"It's got a nice name," Abe said. "I'd be glad to sing a song about the flag if I knew one."

"You weren't born with a singing voice, Abe. What you need is a harmonica. Then you won't have to sing," Denny told him, adding, "When I get some money, Abe, I'm going to buy you one."

A year after Abe's trip to Elizaebethtown, the Lincoln family moved to Indiana. The next year, Dennis and his family moved to Indiana and lived close by the Lincolns. But it was not until six years after his promise, that Denny had earned enough moeny from selling pelts to buy Abe a harmonica.

For years afterward, Abe carried the harmonica in his pocket. Whenever he had a few minutes to rest while he worked felling trees, cutting fodder or building the meetinghouse, he'd take out his harmonica and play a few tunes.

When he was a man, Lincoln still liked to play his harmonica.

Later, when he became President, Lincoln attended many affairs at which the Star Spangled Banner was played. As he stood there listening, do you think he ever thought of the day when he rode to Elizaebethtown on horseback with his pappy and Denny -- the day he said he'd be glad to sing a song about the flag if he knew one -- the day he first heard The Star Spangled Banner?

Reference:

MY COUSIN ABE by Aileen Fisher pages 32 to 135.

4801

June 9, 1970

Mr. Garry C. Myers
Editor-in-Chief
HIGHLIGHTS FOR CHILDREN
803 Church Street
Honesdale, Pa. 18431

Dear Mr. Myers:

In the story written by Kitty Miller, ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER, I find no great historical errors. I find no authenticated accounts of Lincoln actually playing the harmonica, but he could have. Kenneth Bernard, in the preface of his book, LINCOLN AND THE MUSIC OF THE CIVIL WAR, states that Lincoln played no musical instruments except "possibly" the harmonica.

Sincerely,

Ruth P. Higgins
Asst. to Dr. McMurtry

rph/

NYT L 4-23-73 29

**Lincoln Boyhood Home
Uncovered in Kentucky**

ELIZABETHTOWN, Ky., April 22 (UPI) — A 150-year-old log cabin that served as a boyhood home to Abraham Lincoln was discovered during a recent project in this north-central Kentucky city as part of a flood-control project.

When the aging white clapboard had been stripped off, the original log cabin was found. It had been built by Thomas Lincoln — the President's father.

Named the Lincoln Heritage House, the Hardin County cabin will become one of several landmarks in the area.

Mac's Antique Shop

GUNS • FURNITURE • GLASSWARE

ON HWY 31-E & 61

HODGENVILLE, KY. 42748



Oct. 26, 1974

The Lincoln Nat. Life Ins. Co.
Fort Wayne, Ind.

Dear Sirs: we have shipped
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2000 rails, 5 @.

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50 Log Cabins 3.50 @

175.00

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6.65

281.65

you may send the check on
to me. The people who make
the cabins, will try to have the
other 50 ready as soon as possible
right now they have a son who is
seriously ill.

Respt.

C. E. McFelia.

Weekend

WEEKEND TRAVEL IN KENTUCKY



The Heartland is an area steeped in our pioneer past and the lore of Lincoln

By MARTY GODBEY
 Special to The Courier-Journal

Many of the people who settled Kentucky's Heartland came down the Ohio River on flatboats. Debarbing at Maysville or at the mouth of the Salt River, they traveled perilous overland routes to lovely Severns Valley, where trails crossed in the wilderness and a cluster of forts gave protection from Indians.

A community, named Elizabethtown for the wife of its founder, was established there in 1797, and people flocked to the new courthouse town.

Among them was young Thomas Lincoln, who had immigrated to Kentucky from Virginia with his parents. The Lincolns had taken land near the present site of Louisville, but after Tom's father, Abraham, was murdered by Indians, the family moved to a safer area on the Salt River.

Tom Lincoln, a carpenter, lived for a time in Elizabethtown with his bride, Nancy Hanks. Their daughter Sarah was born there in 1807, and a year later they paid \$200 cash for a 300-acre farm about 11 miles southeast of Elizabethtown. In a rude log cabin on Sinking Spring Farm, Abraham Lincoln was born on Feb. 12, 1809.

By midyear in 1811 the family had moved nine miles northeast, to Knob Creek. This was the first home Abraham Lincoln could remember, but tragedy struck there: Unclear land titles threatened the family with debt, and they moved to Indiana in 1816, leaving a baby brother buried on Muldraugh's Hill near their home.

Visitors still find the spirit of Lincoln in places associated with his family and childhood. His birthplace is a National Historic Site, and Lincoln's Boyhood Home and a cabin that Thomas Lincoln helped to build are open to visitors. Other reminders of the 19th century abound in the Heartland.

Elizabethtown is 37 miles from Louisville, by Interstate 65, and 87 miles from Lexington, by U.S. 60 and the Bluegrass Parkway.

A self-guided walking tour acquaints visitors with the many 19th century buildings on the Public Square. Brochures and maps for this and other sights are available at the Visitors and Information Commission, 23 Public Square, Elizabethtown 42701. The commission is not open on weekends, so write, or call (502) 765-2175.

The Brown-Pusey House, 128 N. Main St., is just a block off the

square. Built in 1820, the former stagecoach inn once housed Jenny Lind and Gen. George Armstrong Custer. It was restored in 1923 and given to the city as a community house.

Genealogy records kept at the house may help you trace your family. It is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and tours are free. Call (502) 765-2515 for information.

Start your Lincoln trek with a visit to the Lincoln Heritage House. About a half mile north of the Public Square on U.S. 31W, turn right at the Coca-Cola bottling plant and follow signs to Freeman Lake Park, which surrounds the cabin.

Built in two parts, the cabin was begun about 1789, and about 1805 Thomas Lincoln worked as a carpenter on the larger portion. It was restored by the Hardin County Historical Society in 1973 and is open 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1-6 p.m. Sunday. Adults pay 50 cents, children under 12 years, 25 cents.

Adjacent to the cabin is Summit School, an 1892 one-room schoolhouse in which 80 to 100 children of all ages were taught. Closed in 1953, the school was moved to the park, restored and opened to visitors in 1982. It is open the same hours as the Lincoln Heritage House, and there is no charge.

Freeman Lake Park is open 6:30 a.m. to dark, seven days a week, and offers free fishing and picnicking and playgrounds. Boats and pavilions may be rented by calling (502) 769-9077.

If you visit on a weekday, don't

miss the Schmidt Museum of Coca-Cola Memorabilia at 1201 N. Dixie Ave. (U.S. 31W) just outside the park. The world's largest private collection of such items includes Coke trays, advertising art and calendars, a complete 1890s soda fountain and a barn wall sign.

The museum is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday, and visitors also get a brief tour of the plant. Cost is \$1 for adults, 50 cents for children and senior citizens. Call (502) 737-4000 for information.

Next stop on your Lincoln trail is the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site, 11 miles southeast of Elizabethtown, by KY 61 and U.S. 31E.

Open 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m. daily except Dec. 25, the site includes 116 acres of Lincoln's original 300. On the site are the cabin in a handsome memorial building, the spring, biking trails and picnic areas.

An 18-minute film on Lincoln's early life is shown in the Visitor Center, and special exhibits are held in the summer months. Admission is free. There are steps to the memorial; to arrange tours for the disabled, call (502) 358-3874.

Hodgenville, two miles north of the birthplace on U.S. 31E, has in its square a replica of the statue in the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Lincoln's boyhood home is an additional seven miles north on U.S. 31E through beautiful hilly country. Another simple cabin, it is open 8 a.m.-6 p.m. daily until

See THE HEARTLAND
 PAGE 8, col. 1, this section

THE HEARTLAND

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Continued from Page C1

Labor Day, then 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. Admission is 25 cents for adults, free for children under 12. A gift shop and picnic tables are on the grounds. Call (502) 549-3741 for information.

About five miles south of Elizabethtown by KY 1136 or eight miles by I-65 and KY 222, the little town of Glendale nestles beside the Seaboard System tracks as it did in the late 1800s.

An old-fashioned country dry-goods store and hardware store have been joined by gift, craft and antiques shops. They're all on Main Street, within sight and sound of occasional trains.

Glendale's Whistle Stop, a restaurant with clever railroad decor, serves delicious home-style food, including hot breads and out-of-this-world pies, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

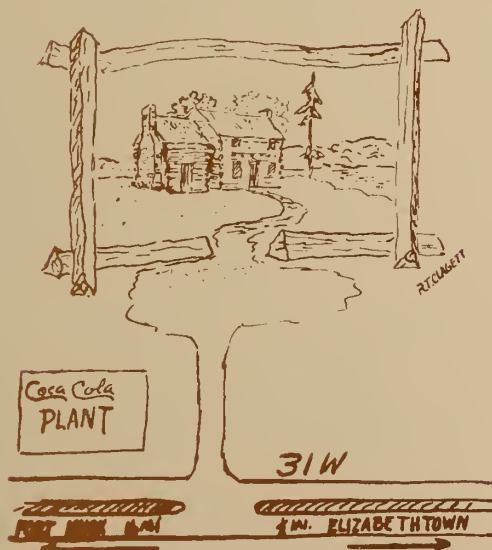
town, 23 miles from Elizabethtown by KY 62 or the Bluegrass Parkway.

Featuring a large cast singing and dancing to "My Old Kentucky Home," "Beautiful Dreamer" and other Foster favorites, performances are held nightly, except Monday, at 8:30, with an indoor Saturday matinee at 3, until Sept. 2.

Admission is \$7 for adults, \$3.50 for those under 12. The drama is indoors when it rains. Call toll-free (800) 348-5900 in Kentucky or (800) 626-1563 out-of-state for more information.



One of the original stairways in the Lincoln Heritage House.



Sketches by Dr. R.T. Clagett
 Lincoln Heritage House photographs by Susan Grubbs.
 Text by Guy Winstead.
 Funds for this brochure provided by Elizabethtown Visitors
 & Information Commission.

Lincoln Heritage House

Freeman Lake Park, Elizabethtown, Ky.
 BUILT 1789-1805



Open June 1st to October 1st
 Tuesday through Sunday
 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

The Lincoln Heritage House is entered in the
 National Register of Historic Places. A historical
 marker has been erected by the State of Ken-
 tucky at the site.



LINCOLN HERITAGE HOUSE Elizabethtown, Ky.

The Lincoln Heritage House was restored to perpetuate the memory of a man, humble in origin and deed who probably gave not a single thought to history or to the consequences of the events of the age in which he lived, but who, nevertheless, will go down in the annals of this country as the father of a giant of a man who changed the course of history in the United States for all time to come. Thomas Lincoln was an ordinary man and though he was much maligned by historians and biographers of his renowned son, President Abraham Lincoln, he was a respected, esteemed, substantial citizen of Hardin County.



Thomas Lincoln was a skilled cabinet-maker and farmer and was a resident of Hardin County for more than ten years. He owned a 200-acre farm on Mill Creek and a log house in Elizabethtown where Sarah, the first child of Thomas and Nancy Hanks Lincoln, was born in 1807.



The two log houses which comprise the Lincoln Heritage House were the home of pioneer Hardin Thomas and his family. The first was built in 1789 and the second and larger one was erected about 1805 with the help of a family friend, Thomas Lincoln, who also built the identical stairways, the mantel pieces and other woodwork.

The huge fireplaces had the dual purposes of heating and cooking. Both houses contain furniture and other household items of the period collected locally. The houses and their contents show a way of life long since passed away.

The Hardin Thomas family cemetery is located on a knoll beside Freeman Lake, just north of the double log house. An old shun pike formerly ran along the west side of the houses and the cemetery.

The Lincoln Heritage House marks an important Lincoln historical site. It was restored by the Hardin County Historical Society and opened June 24, 1973.

ELIZABETHTOWN

THE HEARTLAND OF KENTUCKY



LINCOLN HERITAGE HOUSE Elizabethtown, Ky.

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THE HEARTLAND OF KENTUCKY



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THE ELIZABETHTOWN VISITORS AND INFORMATION COMMISSION

The Elizabethtown Visitors and Information Commission is at your assistance to help you design tours or find motel accommodations. The Commission invites your inquiries by phoning 502-765-2175 or writing them at 23 Public Square, Elizabethtown, Kentucky 42701.

Elizabethtown was established July 4, 1797. By 1825 the first haven for travelers, known as the Hill House, was established. The Hill House, now known as the Brown Pusey House, which is located near the Public Square, was restored in 1923. Since that time, Elizabethtown has grown to more than 18,000, a growth mirrored in the development of facilities to welcome visitors.

Let us help you plan a wonderful vacation in Elizabethtown, the heartland of Kentucky.



Paid in part by Department of Travel Development Funds.

ELIZABETHTOWN

THE HEARTLAND OF KENTUCKY



It was a misty July morning in the year of 1797. The sun was slowly rising, cutting through the early morning Kentucky fog. Four forts had protected the early pioneers. The settlement had become an active community. It was on this particular day in 1797 that Colonel Andrew Hynes divided thirty acres into fifty-one lots including streets and alleys. The settlement had become a town. The town would be known as Elizabethtown, in honor of Colonel Hynes' wife, Elizabeth. Since that morning many days have passed. A lot has changed, and a lot remains the same. Come explore the changes that have occurred in both Elizabethtown and the surrounding rolling hills.

And don't miss our unchanged Kentucky sunrises.

ELIZABETHTOWN

THE HEARTLAND OF KENTUCKY



Coca-Cola Museum of Memorabilia



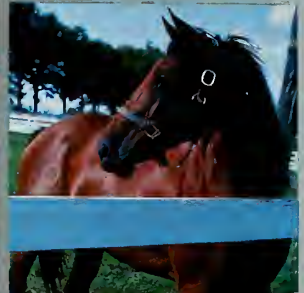
Abraham Lincoln



The Patton Museum of Cavalry and Armor



Stephen Foster Story, Outdoor Drama



The U.S. Gold Depository



Mammoth Cave National Park



Southern Distilleries

Not far from Harrodsburg is Lexington, home of some of the most famous thoroughbred horses and two of the nation's most prestigious tracks. Between Lexington and Louisville is the state capitol, Frankfort with a wealth of state and national history.

From Elizabethtown, a Southern route will take you to Mammoth Cave National Park. Below the 51,000 acres of parkland are 294 miles of chartered cave networks. You will be fascinated by limestone frozen in spectacular shapes, and by subterranean rivers. Tours of different lengths are available throughout the day.

Hodgenville, an Elizabethtown neighbor just to the South, is the location of the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Site. A granite memorial shrine encloses the log cabin which was the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln. There are also exhibits and an audiovisual program. Between Hodgenville and our other neighbor, Bardstown, is the Lincoln boyhood home on Knob Creek Farm. This was Lincoln's last home in Kentucky.

In addition to Elizabethtown's own Freeman Lake Park and its recreational enjoyment, there are two other lakes to the West, Nolin Lake and Rough River Lake. Rough River Lake, located in the Rough River State Resort Park, is thirty-five miles long, allowing plenty of room for water skiing, boating, swimming and fishing in a beautiful setting. Boat and motor rentals are available. Nolin Lake is well known as a fisherman's paradise, but like Rough River Lake it is perfect for all water sports.

Elizabethtown, and the surrounding hillsides, located in the heartland of Kentucky, has a wealth of American history. Breathtaking lakes and forests, museums and awe-inspiring natural wonders are waiting to welcome visitors.

Elizabethtown is the home of the Coca-Cola Memorabilia Museum. This fascinating museum, the world's largest privately owned collection, contains thousands of items documenting the evolution of Coca-Cola since its birth in 1886. A short drive or walk from the Coke museum will put you on the banks of Freeman Lake, where you can enjoy a diverse scope of recreational activities. You will also find Freeman Lake Park to be the home of the Lincoln Heritage House, which was constructed by Thomas Lincoln, Abraham's father. Near the entrance to the Lincoln Heritage House is a restoration of an 1800's one-room Kentucky school house.

North of Elizabethtown is Fort Knox, home of the nation's gold depository. The Patton Museum of Cavalry and Armor is also located at Fort Knox. The exhibits include cavalry and armor from

the revolutionary war through the Vietnam War, along with personal effects of General George C. Patton, Jr. There is no admission fee.

Further North is Louisville, home of Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby. There are racing meets in the spring, summer and fall at Churchill Downs, and the Kentucky Derby Museum at the track is open year round. Another Louisville trademark is the Belle of Louisville, a sternwheeler boat, which takes passengers on daily excursions on the Ohio from Memorial Day to Labor Day (except Mondays).

East of Elizabethtown, through the beautiful bluegrass hills, is Bardstown. In Bardstown is Federal Hill, the inspiration of Stephen Foster's ballad, "My Old Kentucky Home" and now a state park. On a summer evening, enjoy "The Stephen Foster Story," an outdoor musical performed in the park amphitheatre. While in Bardstown, tour one or more of the famous bourbon distilleries. Also, a "must" to see is St. Joseph's Cathedral, which houses

art masterpieces donated by King Louis Philippe of France in the 19th century. Be sure to see Talbott Tavern, America's oldest operating inn; Gethsemane, the first Trappist Monastery in this country; and Wickland, once the home of three Kentucky governors.

Further East through the hills, you will find Harrodsburg, home of Old Fort Harrod, originally built in 1774 and once the home of Daniel Boone. A visit to Harrodsburg should also include Pleasant Hill, a unique and exquisite village once inhabited by members of the Shaker religion.



My Old Kentucky Home

COMMUNITY CENTER AND LODGING

Elizabethtown is the home of the James R. Pritchard Community Center with catering facilities that can accommodate large group meetings. You are invited to play tennis on the city tennis courts and play golf at any of our five area golf courses. Racquetball courts are also available.

Elizabethtown has fourteen motels with over 1,000 rooms available. Whatever you are planning, a vacation for two or a large group tour, you will find comfortable, quality accommodations.

Motels are accessible from Exit 91 or 94. If you arrive via the Elizabethtown Airport at Addington Field, take Hayden School Road to St. John Road to the Elizabethtown By-Pass to all motels.

ELIZABETHTOWN





Sarah Bush Johnston Lincoln

The most famous stepmother in American history.



Sarah Bush Johnston Lincoln Memorial, Inc.

P.O. Box 291
Elizabethtown, KY 42702-0291



Open summer months
on weekends only.
Open other times
by appointment.

Donations are appreciated.

The Uncommon Wealth Of
KENTUCKY

Paid in part by Department of Travel Development funds.

Sarah Bush Johnston Lincoln Memorial



Elizabethtown Kentucky

**Another Footprint
Along The Lincoln Trail**

Sarah Bush Johnston Lincoln Memorial

Sarah Bush, the youngest daughter of Christopher and Hannah Bush, was born in Kentucky in 1788 and grew up in Elizabethtown.

In 1806 Sarah Bush, at the age of 18, married Daniel Johnston. During their ten year marriage, the couple lived in Elizabethtown and had two daughters and a son.

Springfield, Illinois

- In April 1837, Lincoln settles down here to live and practice law. On November 4, 1842 he marries Kentucky-born Mary Todd. Lincoln is elected to Congress in 1847 and serves one term. In 1860 Lincoln is elected President of the United States and leaves for Washington.

New Salem, Illinois

Abraham Lincoln lives here for six years and tries his hand at a variety of jobs, avidly studies law and is elected twice to the Illinois state legislature.

Vincennes, Indiana

• A town rich in Lincoln associations, sees the Lincoln family pass through in March of 1830 on the way to Illinois. Abraham Lincoln is 21.

Lincoln City, Indiana

- The Bush-Lincoln family lives here for 14 years before moving to Illinois in 1830.

Elizabethtown

Sarah Bush grows up here and on December 2, 1819 marries Thomas Lincoln.

Also in 1806, Abraham Lincoln's parents, Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks were married in Springfield, Kentucky. Thomas and Nancy Lincoln were living in the Elizabethtown area in 1807 when their first child, Sarah, was born. Just prior to the birth of Abraham in 1809, the Lincolns moved near Hodgenville, Kentucky to Sinking Spring Farm, now known as Lincoln Birthplace. Later the family moved to nearby Knob Creek Farm, which is now called Lincoln's Boyhood Home. In 1816, after nine years of living in Kentucky, the Thomas Lincoln family moved to Indiana.

The same year that the Lincolns left Kentucky, Sarah Bush Johnston's husband, Daniel, died. In 1818 Sarah purchased a 14' x 14' log cabin from Samuel Haycraft, Sr. and settled in to raise her three young children and make a living as best she could.

Springfield, Kentucky

In 1806 Abraham Lincoln's parents, Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks are married.

Hodgenville, Kentucky

In 1809 Abraham Lincoln is born at his parents' Sinking Spring Farm.

Thomas Lincoln's wife, Nancy Hanks Lincoln died in 1818, leaving Thomas, 11 year old Sarah and 9 year old Abe. In the following year, 1819, Thomas Lincoln traveled alone from Indiana back to Elizabethtown where he courted Sarah and asked her to marry him. They were married December 2, 1819, uniting the Bush and Lincoln families. Immediately following the marriage, the couple, along with Sarah's children, left Kentucky and returned to Thomas' home and children in Indiana. Sarah never came back to Kentucky where she had spent the first thirty years of her life.

Sarah Bush Johnston Lincoln became the step-mother of Abraham Lincoln when he was 10 years old. Her spirit of love and encouragement did much to mold the young boy into the strong, sensitive leader that he became.

The Sarah Bush Johnston Lincoln Memorial, Inc. has been established to keep alive the memories of this hardy pioneer woman who contributed so much to the history of this area. We are dedicated to preserving the memory of Sarah Bush Johnston Lincoln as an important part of our *past*, to keeping these memories alive in the *present*, and to preserving them for *future* generations.

The memorial cabin represents a close replica of Sarah Bush Johnston's Elizabethtown home at the time she married Thomas Lincoln. This size and type of cabin was common in the early 1800's. The furnishings, which consist of housewares, tools, etc., are similar to ones used during the Bush-Lincoln era.



ELIZABETHTOWN

DRAWER 11

ANCESTRAL HOMES

